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# Macalester Today August 1996

Macalester College

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# Macalester Today

August 1996



Mike McPherson:  
A new president  
for Macalester



# Walter Mink, 1927-96: Exceptional teacher, father, friend

**F**AMILY, FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES and former students filled Weyerhaeuser Chapel on July 9 to celebrate the life of Walter D. Mink, a Macalester psychology professor for 38 years and an especially beloved teacher.

Professor Mink died June 25 at the age of 68. He had been diagnosed about five years ago with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a lung disease.

Two of his four children, Jonathan and Pamela Mink, spoke at the memorial service. They described him as a devoted father, a man of great humor who delighted in telling jokes at the dinner table, one of the few people in his generation to wear a shirt that read "Question authority," a citizen of the world who abhorred racism and bigotry in any form and showed an essential kindness toward others.

Not long ago, learning from the Psychology Department that Professor Mink was in ill health, 86 of his former students wrote him letters which the department collected in a scrapbook. In the final weeks of his life, Professor Mink "was never alone," Jonathan said, "and after his death it's become even clearer how many of you [Macalester students and colleagues] are part of our family."

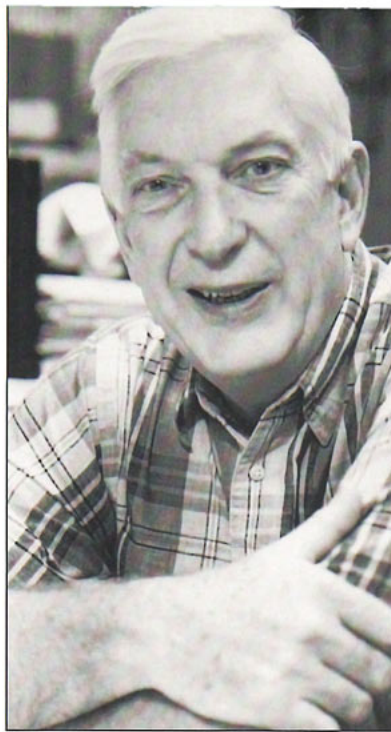
Pamela recalled her father's love of music, especially Broadway musicals and jazz. The music played at the memorial service was chosen by him from his jazz collection and included two versions of his favorite song, "Body and Soul."

Charles Torrey, a longtime colleague in the Psychology Department, said Professor Mink "was the very dearest of friends — the first we sought out to share a good idea or a good movie or a good joke with, to get his wise advice on decisions big or little, to bask in his enormous happiness at our achievements, to know his deep understanding and feel the comfort of his support in our times of disappointment and despair."

Another psychology professor, Lynda LaBounty, said that "in 23 years of teaching with Walt, I never heard him express an angry thought about a student. This is not just my failing memory, rather it is a shared experience of all of us in our department. To him, there was no such thing as a 'difficult student' but only students with difficulties. So, when faced with a 'student with difficulties,' he saw it as his task to work harder to find a way to support and guide that student through those difficulties — personal or academic. It was just not in him to think otherwise."

"Moreover, he was able to provide that support and guidance with genuine caring and sensitivity — and a good dose of Mink wisdom. That is why, I think, so many students loved him so much," LaBounty said.

Professor Mink won several teaching awards, including the national Distinguished Teaching Award in 1992 from the American Psychological Association and the Outstanding Teacher Award



Professor Walt Mink

GREG HELGESON

from the Minnesota Psychological Association the same year. The latter organization recently voted to name its annual teaching award after him.

Chuck Green, a political science professor, quoted from Professor Mink's remarks about teaching at an Education Department recognition dinner this spring. Professor Mink wrote that he had sought to be "sensitive to and responsive to those occasions where taking students seriously might make a difference in the way they take themselves seriously."

Green concluded: "As a husband and father in an extraordinary family, as a

marvelous colleague, as a generative scholar, as a nurturing friend, as a principled citizen and a truly excellent teacher, Walt took us all seriously to make a difference in the ways we take ourselves seriously."

Mary Karr '76, a writer who now teaches at Syracuse University, recalled that her former teacher was "deeply irreverent about himself" and repeatedly urged her as a student to stop calling him "Dr." Mink. She described two of his great traits — intellectual curiosity and generosity. "He bought me innumerable lunches and innumerable books. I said, 'How can I ever pay you back?' He said, 'It's not linear. You're not going to pay me back. You're going to do this for somebody else.'"

Born July 12, 1927, in Newark, Ohio, Walter Mink earned his B.A. from Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio, in 1950 and his Ph.D., with emphases in both clinical and experimental psychology, from the University of Minnesota in 1957. He joined the Macalester Psychology Department in 1958.

**P**ROFESSOR MINK was a versatile teacher whose interests extended across the psychology curriculum and beyond. He often taught courses in behavior disorders, clinical and counseling psychology, and cognition. Each fall for more than 15 years, he carried a teaching overload in order to participate in a team-taught cluster of freshman seminars. He introduced a course entitled "Brain, Mind and Behavior," which was intended to make recent developments in neuropsychology accessible to the broadest possible audience. It soon became the most popular of the courses offered by the department at the introductory level, and an important influence on the decision of many students to major in psychology.

In addition to Jonathan and Pamela, Professor Mink is survived by two other children, David Mink and Lesley Greene, and four grandchildren.

Memorials are preferred to the Macalester College Psychology Department or the Raymond G. Johnson Memorial Lectureship in Psychology at the college. ●



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ACCLAIMED BY *Granta* magazine as one of America's best young novelists, David Haynes '77 is the author of two new novels



### On the cover

Mike McPherson was photographed in one of Macalester's most picturesque spots: the second-floor alcove of the DeWitt Wallace Library, with Old Main visible through the large round window behind him. Minneapolis photographer Steve Voit took the photo. For a profile of the college's new president, turn to page 11.



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# Trustee's major gift will help build new residence hall

**M**ACALESTER TRUSTEE Ruth Stricker-Dayton '57 and her husband, Bruce Dayton, are making a \$1.5 million gift to Macalester that will help build the college's new residence hall.

A key component of the three-story residence hall will be a center for health and wellness on the first floor. Stricker-Dayton is a nationally recognized authority on fitness and wellness. The center will be named in her honor.

The gift was announced in May at the Board of Trustees' meeting by President Gavin and Board Chair Timothy Hultquist '72, who expressed their appreciation to Stricker-Dayton and her husband.

The \$5.9 million residence hall is being built near the Alumni House on Cambridge Avenue, across from Ramsey Junior High. It will replace the 113 beds in Dayton Hall, which will be removed to make way for the new Campus Center. Intended for junior and senior students, the residence hall will also feature creative combinations of academic and social spaces to encourage and support faculty-student interaction. "The wellness center will serve to introduce students to healthy lifestyles or reinforce healthy lifestyles, which in turn contribute to academic success," said Ann Bolger, director of residential life at Macalester and a member of the design team that planned the residence hall.

"I was excited by the fact that they're going to integrate such innovative programming into the residence hall, and wanted to do my part as an alumna," Stricker-Dayton, who joined the Board of Trustees in 1995, said in an interview. "The Macalester experience was very, very good for me. I have used the skills I gained at Macalester through all of my adult work, including 40 years in health education. I believe very much in the integrated approach to life and looking at the whole person. My career has been devoted to bringing the liberal arts approach to health. Now with the new wellness center I see the opportunity, in a small way, to incorporate fitness and health into the liberal arts experience."

In 1975, Stricker-Dayton was diagnosed with lupus, an incurable disease in which inflammation of connective tissue and membranes around joints and muscles makes movement painful.



GREG HELGESON



Ruth Stricker-Dayton '57 led a special participatory convocation at Macalester in April 1995. She explained T'ai Chi, an ancient Chinese discipline of meditative movements practiced as a system of exercises.

"It wasn't bed rest or medication that did it for me," she said. "I regard myself as a well person in a diseased body. We are all so much more than our numbers, so to speak. Being a well person means taking a big look at life — the big picture — and

**'My career has been devoted to bringing the liberal arts approach to health. Now with the new wellness center I see the opportunity, in a small way, to incorporate fitness and health into the liberal arts experience.'**

keeping everything in perspective. And physical activity certainly helps with that."

In 1985, Stricker-Dayton founded The Marsh, a center for balance and fitness, in Minnetonka, Minn. In 1994, she received the prestigious Healthy American Fitness Leader Award in recognition of her leadership in the mind-body approach to wellness.

Stricker-Dayton envisions the residence hall's wellness center as more than simply a place for physical exercise. "The mind must be exercised as well as the body. The whole person — our emotions, our spiritual life, as well as our physical activity and our intellectual life — cannot be separated. They all impact each other at some point. . . .

"We did some research at The Marsh and found that mindful exercise — anything with a cognitive component — offers immediate psychological benefits. Rather than just beating the body, when there's a cognitive component — as there is in T'ai Chi or yoga or so many of the new forms of the softer approach to exercise — there are immediate psychological benefits, whereas physical benefits take a minimum of six weeks to appear.

"I think that's important for students on campus, as well as all of us, to know. It helps us with self-esteem, with clarity of mind. It's the vitality, too, that counts, not just the physical experience, but that vital feeling of being with it, of charging into life. We're all looking for that in our lives. . . .

"I believe that this wellness center will offer an additional approach to enriching our lives," she said.



## 1996 WPI Fellows

A FORMER political prisoner, an award-winning news weekly bureau chief and an environmental watchdog are among the nine international reporters and editors awarded 1996 fellowships by the World Press Institute.

The fellows arrived at Macalester in July and began their assignments July 15. Until Nov. 8, they will be immersed in a rigorous program of study, travel and interviews aimed at introducing them to Americans in all walks of life. As part of this year's WPI fellowship, the journalists will cover the Republican and Democratic national conventions and the general election.

The mission of WPI is to help ensure that international opinion about the United States is informed by journalists communicating from a comprehensive background of personal experience. Since its founding at Macalester in 1961, WPI has helped 414 journalists from 91 countries gain an in-depth understanding of the U.S.

WPI's 1996 Fellows are as follows:

- **Argentina.** Ruben Guillemi, Buenos Aires, covers international news for *Clarín*, the largest daily in Argentina.
- **Australia.** Claire Miller, Melbourne, covers major issues affecting the state of Victoria for *The Age*, Melbourne's leading daily.
- **Brazil.** João Fábio Caminoto is the Porto Alegre bureau chief of the news magazine *Veja*, the largest weekly in Brazil.
- **Bulgaria.** Alexenia Dimitrova, Sofia, is an investigative reporter at *24 Hours*, the largest newspaper in Bulgaria.
- **Ethiopia.** Mulugeta Aregawi, Addis Ababa, covers legal affairs and writes political commentaries for *The Ethiopian Herald*, the country's only English-language daily. He spent eight years as a political prisoner at the beginning of his career.
- **Ireland.** Eileen Whelan, Dublin, covers domestic and foreign news on national radio and television for Radio Telefís Éireann.

- **Romania.** Vlad Georgescu, Bucharest, is chief news editor of Radio Delta in Bucharest.

- **Thailand.** Tawesak Bhutton, Bangkok, covers major news events and writes a weekly column on the environment for *Matichon*, a leading Bangkok daily.

- **Uganda.** Richard Mutumba, Kampala, covers political, diplomatic and economic affairs for *The New Vision*, Uganda's only daily.

## Three join staff

MACALESTER'S Development Office has announced three major appointments:

- Marcia Freeman is the new director of the Annual Fund. She had been serving as the director of the Annual Fund at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, where her leadership was the catalyst for the Annual Fund's growth of more than 10 percent in each fiscal year. She has more than 10 years of fund-raising experience, including three years of work on the

Annual Fund staff at Carleton, her alma mater.

- Patrick Sheehy is the new major gifts officer for special projects. He has more than 10 years of fund-raising experience in the health care and social service industries. He has planned and implemented successful capital campaigns while also effectively securing major gifts in support of them. He will be working with alumni and other friends of the college in the Twin Cities area and with people who live and work west of the Mississippi. He will also oversee special projects related to Macalester's major gift program.

- Jennifer Snyder is the new major gifts officer for reunion class giving. She has more than six years of fund-raising experience, most of which was spent at the Hazelden Foundation in Center City, Minn. She



## Senior leadership

President Gavin with students who received the first Presidential Student Leadership Awards. The awards are given to seniors in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the Macalester community throughout their college career. The seniors are, from left, Eva Reid (New York City), John Jensen (San Juan Bautista, Calif.), Jordan Cushing (Edina, Minn.), Jacqueline Arciniega (New York City), Gretchen Wegner (Houston, Texas), Yasir Fattah (Brooklyn, N.Y.), Emily Hostetter (Fairbury, Ill.), Alyson Schiller (Riverton, Wyo.) and Jennifer Brav (Paris, France). Tonderai Chikuhwa (Harare, Zimbabwe) was also given the award but was unable to attend the ceremony.



spent three years effectively leading the Annual Fund, and for more than the last year she has been a major gifts officer successfully securing major and planned gifts. She will be working with alumni and friends in the Twin Cities and with people who live and work east of the Mississippi. She will also oversee Macalester's reunion class gift program.

All three report to Tom Wick, director of development at Macalester. "They are not only talented and experienced, but they add balance and depth to our department. I am very confident that we will enjoy tremendous success," Wick said.

## International studies

SHERRY GRAY has joined Macalester's Office of International Studies and Programming for a two-year period, 1996-98, as visiting assistant professor of interna-

tional studies and coordinator for international faculty development.

Gray will assume the responsibilities of Professor Anne Sutherland, whose tenure as dean of international faculty development came to an end this summer. Sutherland has returned to the Anthropology Department.

## World Wide Web

MACALESTER has an expanded presence on the World Wide Web. The address:

<http://www.macalester.edu/>

Alumni and others who log in to the Web site from outside the college will see an initial page which provides such choices as admissions information (with illustrated sections on academic programs and campus life), alumni services, and college news and events.

Sutherland was appointed dean in the fall of 1994. In that capacity, she was responsible for the yearly recruitment of visiting international faculty as well as organization and direction of the faculty development international seminars. In addition, she and Ahmed Samatar, dean of international studies and programming, were responsible for the annual presentation of the Macalester International Roundtable as well as the editing of *Macalester International*.

Gray earned her Ph.D. from the Graduate School of International Studies at Denver University. She has published articles in *U.S.-China Review* and *China Now*. She has taught at Providence College, the University of Louisville, Liaoning University in China and the University of Port Harcourt in Nigeria. From 1992 to 1995, she was the executive director of the Program for International Studies in Asia at the American Council

## Karen Warren: philosopher, feminist and a teacher who changes lives

KAREN J. WARREN, who joined Macalester's Philosophy Department in 1985, received the 1995-96 Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award. The citation reads, in part:

"[She] has distinguished herself in many ways, but especially through dynamic, rigorous, and innovative teaching that attracts students and changes their lives. She has proven that the study of philosophy continues to be a powerful, meaningful experience even to students who have been raised on MTV and 'Melrose Place'....

"Professor Warren's work has garnered her international attention.... She presented at the United Nations International Conference on Bio-Diversity in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil; was the Ecofeminist-Scholar-in-Residence at Murdoch University, Perth, Western Australia; and was one of only three United States representatives invited to be a participant at a conference on environmental ethics in Beijing. That so many people in so many places across the world believe she has something important to say suggests that we have among us an extraordinary teacher/scholar.

"There is no question that her students at Macalester consider her an extraordinary teacher. Both men and women flock to her classes because she pushes them to think about ideas beyond their 'comfort zone' and yet provides a 'safe place' to discuss those ideas. In their evaluations, students repeatedly comment that they wish they had taken Professor Warren's courses earlier in their lives

and could have taken more from her because the class was 'the best' or 'one of the best' they have had in their college careers.

"Karen Warren's classes are rigorous and innovative. She was one of the first faculty members on this campus to offer courses in feminism; she offered one of the first courses in the country in ecofeminist philosophy. She is a national pioneer in developing critical thinking curricula and offering college-level critical thinking courses. Earlier than most of us, she recognized the need for



Karen Warren: "There is no question that her students at Macalester consider her an extraordinary teacher."

**'Both men and women flock to her classes because she pushes them to think about ideas beyond their "comfort zone" and yet provides a "safe place" to discuss those ideas.'**

multicultural education and helped to develop the Maccess summer program for minority high school students and is now offering a multicultural-based ethics class.

"Professor Warren's ideas are path-breaking, controversial and help to put Macalester College 'on the map.' She is widely recognized as this country's leading ecofeminist philosopher and virtually every published essay, book or doctoral thesis on the subject cites her work. A colleague has said of her: 'Feminism and environmental ethics have made two of the most important contributions to philosophy in the last quarter century, and Karen Warren, more than anyone else, has made people see the connections between them in ecofeminism. Many of the eight books that she has authored, co-authored, or edited in her eleven years at Macalester have dealt with showing the promise and power of ecofeminism, what ecofeminism is, and why it matters.'"





## Wishing Mac well

Art Professor Stan Sears was commissioned to make a bronze wishing well sculpture this summer as the Class of '96 gift to Macalester. Here, he shows his design during a reception in May on the Library Plaza. The senior class raised more than \$3,400 for their gift, with 56 percent of the class pledging a contribution. Members of the class gift committee included Julie Donnelly (Roslindale, Mass.), Maria Barbara Garcia (Houston, Texas), Seth Halvorson (Apple Valley, Minn.), Emily Hostetter (Fairbury, Ill.), Alex Kafka (Tubingen, Germany), Ethan Roberts (Chelmsford, Mass.) and John Yankey (Lagos, Nigeria).

of Learned Societies. In addition to assuming Sutherland's responsibilities, she will teach two courses in international studies.

## Three new trustees

THE MACALESTER BOARD of Trustees added three new members at its May meeting. They are:

- Warren F. Bateman '44 of Miami, Fla. He is a sales representative for West Publishing Co. and a member of the Dade County Bar. He earned both a B.S. and a law degree from the University of Minnesota.

- Mardene Asbury Eichhorn '53 of Champlin, Minn. She was a psychotherapist for Family and Children's Services of Minneapolis and Hennepin County Juvenile Court Services before going into private practice. She retired in 1994. She is a former board member of Big Sisters, the YWCA and League of Women Voters. She is married to Richard Eichhorn '51, a former Macalester trustee and a 1996 Distinguished Citizen (see page 25).

- Peter Fenn '70 of Washington, D.C. The president of Fenn, King, Murphy, Putnam Communications, a political consulting firm, he served as president of the Macalester Alumni Association from 1994 until this May. He was also a member of the Presidential Search Committee. He is married to Alison Seale '72.

## New treasurer

CRAIG AASE '70, Macalester's long-time business manager, has been appointed chief financial officer by President-Elect Michael McPherson and President Robert M. Gavin, Jr. Aase assumed his new duties July 1.

"Craig is bright, clear-headed and marvelous at explaining com-



Craig Aase '70

plicated budgetary and financial matters. He has earned the respect and the trust of all those who work with him. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to work with Craig and his capable staff," McPherson said.

Aase has been the college's acting treasurer since the beginning of the 1995-96 academic year, when Paul Aslanian left Macalester to become vice president for finance and planning at Swarthmore College. "Craig has done an outstanding job as acting treasurer in the past year," Gavin said. "He is a skilled financial administrator and an excellent communicator. The college is in good hands with Craig as chief financial officer."

As treasurer, Aase will provide leadership on the management of all financial plans, oversee the financial aspects of the college's long-term strategic goals and assist the Board of Trustees' Investment Committee with the management of the college endowment.

## Debate showing

TWO MACALESTER students, Jennifer Alme '98 (Bloomington, Minn.) and Nathan Dintenfass '97 (Appleton, Wis.), tied for fifth place at the national tournament of the

Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA).

More than 200 two-person teams from across the nation competed in the tournament in Long Beach, Calif. Dintenfass and Alme posted a 6-2 record in the first phase of the tournament. In the championship bracket, they defeated Northwestern State, Arizona State and Fort Hays State before losing a close decision to the University of Vermont in the quarterfinal round.

For their performance over the course of the season, Alme was named to CEDA's All-American team and Dintenfass was honored as an Academic All-American.

## Rome prize

FRANCESCA SANTORO L'HOIR, a visiting professor of classics at Macalester, is one of 24 American scholars and artists selected for a prestigious fellowship to study at the American Academy in Rome.

Santoro L'hoir is a recipient of the National Endowment for the Humanities/Helen M. Woodruff Archaeological



## David Letterman was an education for quarterback Nathaniel Eyde

ON THE WAY TO HIS B.A., history major Nathaniel Eyde '97 has already been photographed for *Sports Illustrated* and worked for David Letterman.

In its 1995 football preview, *SI* showed Macalester's starting quarterback holding two footballs above his head and performing a *pas de chat*. It was a fitting pose for Eyde, who has been dancing ballet for 11 years.

This past spring, he regularly worked 12-hour days as an intern on Letterman's show in New York. He ran errands and did other chores for Letterman's executive assistant, Laurie Diamond, and sometimes for "Mr. Letterman," as Eyde calls him.

"The joke is that he's 'the most powerful man in American broadcasting.' Really, he's the busiest, too, probably. But the thing I noticed right off the bat is that whenever he enters a room, whoever's

as well. What I want to do is play my last year of football, graduate and then beyond that I may look into show business, probably with a member of my family, with my brother. But that's so far in the future."

As quarterback, Eyde helped lead the Scots to victory in their first game in 1995. Then he dislocated a thumb and missed most of the season.

"It was too bad," he said, "but I've got one more shot at it. 'To be quite honest, it's really important to me that we do well [this fall], and I think we will.' •

'The thing I noticed right off the bat is that whenever [Letterman] enters a room, whoever's in there, he makes sure to acknowledge them and be polite.'

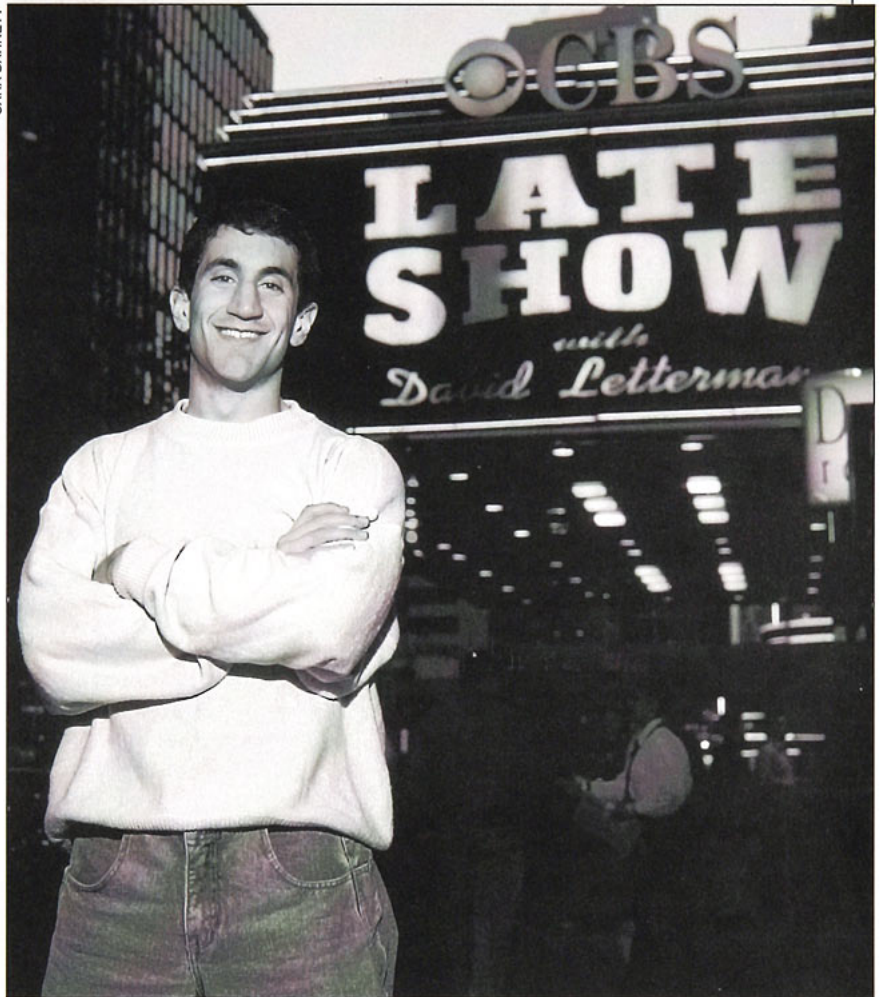
in there, he makes sure to acknowledge them and be polite. He's a nice person. He's real busy, and not as wacky as he is on television."

Eyde was sponsored for the internship by Professor Sears Eldredge of the Dramatic Arts Department. An older sister, Sarah, who just graduated from the University of Iowa, held the same internship before him. "I owe a lot to Sarah," he said.

Eyde, who grew up in East Lansing, Mich., is no stranger to the performing arts. One brother, Matthew, is an actor in Chicago; another sister, Evemarie, is in graduate school in theater at Northwestern.

"Doing the internship has taught me a lot about the business," Eyde said. "[Letterman's] show has drawn very good people. Now, I'm interested in every end of it — the producing end, the technical end. I was brought up in the fine arts and performing end of it, so [the internship] kind of rekindled that

SARA BARRETT



Nathaniel Eyde '97 (East Lansing, Mich.) outside the Ed Sullivan Theater in New York, home of the "Late Show with David Letterman," where he was an intern this past spring

Institute of America Rome Prize Post-doctoral Fellowship in Classical Studies and Archaeology.

Santoro L'hoir will spend the 1996-97 academic year in residence as a fellow working on a project called "Death's Mansions: A Comparative Study of the Columbaria of the City of Rome," in which she will investigate the great

Roman repositories of the ashes for the dead from the 1st century B.C. and the 1st century A.D. Hundreds of columbaria — warehouses or tombs for the dead — once lined the streets outside the gates of Rome. Most have been destroyed, except for the seven that Santoro L'hoir will be studying.

Santoro L'hoir's research and teaching interests include Greek and Roman history, women in antiquity, and the rela-

tionship between rhetoric and history. She is also an authority on the Roman historian Tacitus. Her work has been published by major U.S. and European journals and presses. In addition, she directs the Classics Department's popular study abroad program in Rome each January.

The 24 national winners were selected by jurors from a field of 1,000 applicants.



Previous Rome Prize Fellows have included Nobel Prize winners, MacArthur Fellows, Pulitzer Prize winners and U.S. poet laureates. The American Academy in Rome is the preeminent American overseas center for independent study, advanced research and creative work in the arts and the humanities.

## Scientific paper

MACALESTER psychology Professor Lynda LaBounty and Ethan Gahtan '93 are two of the authors of a research paper published recently in the scientific journal *Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior*.

Their paper, written with two researchers from the University of Minnesota's Department of Psychiatry, is part of LaBounty and Gahtan's continuing research on addictive behavior. Gahtan is working toward a Ph.D. in cognitive and biological psychology at the University of Minnesota.

The August 1995 *Macalester Today* featured an article on Gahtan's long-term collaborative research with Professor LaBounty, his undergraduate adviser at Macalester. Drug addiction and abuse is one of LaBounty's major areas of research.

## Saluting Mary Lou

MARY LOU BYRNE '83, a staff assistant in Macalester's Residential Life Department, is the winner of this year's Staff Outstanding Service Award.

In her 13 years with Residential Life, the award citation says, Byrne "has become an integral part of departmental operations — handling the computer system; student housing contracts and assignments; central work flow with Physical Plant; supervision of student staff; dining service and residence hall data collection and analysis, and one-on-one work with students. She is also directly involved in professional staff recruitment, selection and training.

"Mary Lou is the *ultimate* team player. She has had an extremely positive influence on the entire staff. . . . But her stellar

work with students separates Mary Lou from the crowd. She has gained the respect of students. Her genuine interest in them is heartfelt. Students know her to be fair, concerned and efficient in resolving their difficulties. Mary Lou often works with intense and emotional student concerns. She skillfully deals with these issues — going out of her way to assist students with room selection, roommate

tensions, meal plan changes, academic worries, sickness and injury and problems 'back home.'

"And, as the 'college experience' doesn't always work perfectly for every student, Mary Lou is often — literally — the shoulder that students cry on. Her understanding and commitment to supporting the academic success of all students is evident in her every action."

## Ethical questions? Mac students score well on those, too

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING thinkers evaluates the morality of actions in terms of the amount of pleasure and pain they produce?

- (a) Aristotle (b) Kant  
(c) Bentham (d) King

According to which of the following philosophers is it immoral to commit suicide?

- (a) The hedonist Epicurus, because suicide decreases one's pleasure  
(b) The Stoic Epictetus, because suicide is contrary to nature

- (c) Kant, because persons who commit suicide treat themselves as a means only  
(d) Mill, because suicide never maximizes utility

In the fall of 1994, students in Professor Henry West's ethics class at Macalester and students at 23 other colleges and universities throughout the United States took a 90-minute, multiple-choice test. They answered questions similar to the ones above, designed to test their knowledge of the content of an introductory college course on ethics.

"When I collected the tests, I looked at them and I was disappointed, because no student got more than 90 percent of the answers right," West recalls.

But not long ago, West learned that his students did very well. In fact, Macalester students scored the highest of the 24 institutions which took part in the national "norming" of this test administered by the Educational Testing Service of Princeton, N.J., the same company which administers the SAT. Of the

22 Macalester students — mostly freshmen — who took the test, 20 would have earned an "A" if judged by the national average. And among the 592 students nationwide who took the test, 5 of the top 10 scores were by Macalester students.

The Educational Testing Service develops standardized tests in many disciplines to enable colleges and universities to award credit to students with a knowledge equivalent to that learned by students taking a course. Students can thus "test

out" of a course when they have already done a lot of reading on the subject.

The names of the 23 other institutions where the "Ethics in America" test was administered are confidential. However, they were chosen to represent a cross-section of American higher education, from community colleges to major universities.

West does not usually give multiple choice tests in his philosophy courses — essay questions are the norm. But the "Ethics in America" test covered the same kind of material he teaches in his introductory course: the ethical views of the great philosophers in the Western tradition, and critical thinking about current philosophical issues in ethics.

"The test results primarily tell me that Macalester students are either very good to start with, as entering students, or they study well in a course — probably a combination of both," West says.

The answers to the two questions above are, in order: Bentham and Kant. •



Henry West



Mary Lou Byrne '83



## Spring sports review

MACALESTER posted winning spring records in men's and women's tennis, as well as softball, and finished .500 in baseball for the first time in two decades. All in all, it was Mac's most successful spring sports season in years.

### • Softball

The softball Scots challenged for the league title and won nine of their final 11 games to finish with an all-time best 26-11 record under Coach Joel Kaden. Junior Lisafe Aying (Livermore, Calif.) and first-year Carson Hildreth (Fairfax, Calif.) were dominant pitchers all season. Aying, a three-time All-Conference choice, went 14-3 with a 1.44 earned run average, while Hildreth was 12-8 with a 1.97 ERA. Aying was the team's top hitter, too, batting .406 with 25 RBI. Kerstin Buettner (Rochester, Minn.) hit .393 with 25 RBI, and Jenny Goodfriend (New York City) scored 40 runs from her leadoff spot. Maren Anderson (Rochester, Minn.) played superb defense at second base and joined Aying on the All-MIAC team. First-year outfielder Jaimi Stejskal (Spring Valley, Minn.) led the team with four homers and 26 RBI.

### • Baseball

Kawika Alo (Honolulu, Hawaii) rewrote much of the Macalester baseball record book in leading the Scots to a 20-20 record and seventh-place 8-12 MIAC mark. Alo, one of the league's most dangerous sluggers, hit .339 with 10 home runs and 36 RBI. He was joined on the All-Conference squad by pitcher Django Amerson (Port Townsend, Wash.), who went 5-5 with a 3.22 earned run average while finishing second in the conference in strikeouts. Outfielder R.T. Luczak (Greenfield, Wis.) and third baseman Matt Kessler (Medford, Ore.) emerged as two of the top newcomers in the MIAC. Luczak tied Alo for the team lead in runs batted in with a school-record 36, while Kessler set a Macalester mark for runs scored with 37.

### • Tennis

Tats Kanenari (Tokyo, Japan) went 14-1 at No. 1 singles as the top first-year player in the MIAC, leading Macalester's men's tennis team to its best season in years. The Scots went 10-4 on the season and took fifth at the conference tournament. Kanenari's only loss was in the MIAC championship match and came against a



Tats Kanenari '99 led the men's tennis team to its best season in years.

player who went on to place second at the NCAA Championships. Tonderai Chikuhwa (Harare, Zimbabwe), Matt Crosby (St. Paul) and Greg Luloff (Southborough, Mass.) also had productive seasons at the top of the singles lineup.

Macalester's women's tennis team posted an 8-6 record and took seventh out of 12 teams at the conference tournament. Julie Colby (Roseville, Minn.) and Susanna Styve (Afton, Minn.) played first and second singles, respectively, and each finished with 10 wins on the campaign. Leela Lavasani (Minnetonka, Minn.) also enjoyed a winning season.

### • Track

The women's track and field team was led by four All-Conference performers: Beth Mulligan (Waterloo, Iowa) in the 400-meter hurdles, Martha Sarpong (Juaso, Ghana) in the long jump and triple jump, Alexis Phillips (Montclair, N.J.) in the 100-meter dash and Jennifer Carnell (Brookfield, Wis.) in the 1500-meter run. Mulligan registered the team's highest

conference finish when she placed fourth in the 400-meter hurdles with a 1:07.62 time.

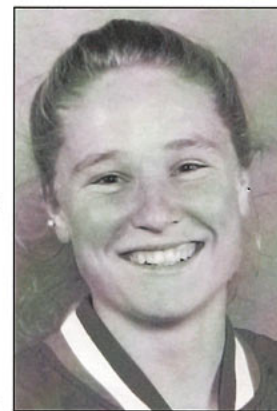
Twin brothers Justin and Jasper Simon (Claremont, Calif.) closed out tremendous distance-running careers in style. Justin placed second in the MIAC in the 5,000-meter run and third in the 10,000 meters. Jasper was right behind his twin in the 5,000 meters, taking third. The Simon brothers combined to earn 15 All-Conference certificates in cross country and track at Macalester. Bear Stephens (Lewistown, Mont.) was fifth in the MIAC in the 100-meter dash, and Eric Starkweather (Oak Ridge, Tenn.) took sixth in the decathlon.

## Athletes of the Year

HERE ARE the M Club Male and Female Athletes of the Year for 1995-96:

• Kawika Alo '97 (Honolulu, Hawaii) was named All-MIAC in both football and baseball. As an outside linebacker in football, Alo was in on 76 tackles and was Macalester's only All-Conference selection. As one of the MIAC's top power hitters in baseball, Alo hit .339 with school-record totals of 10 home runs and 36 runs batted in. He tied for the conference home run crown and posted an impressive .677 slugging percentage. In 41 games, Alo scored 32 runs, had 20 extra base hits and stole 10 bases. Alo was also one of the top defensive first basemen in the conference.

• Nikki Epperson '96 (Sandy, Utah) helped the Scots post winning records in soccer and basketball. Epperson scored nine goals to lead the nationally ranked soccer team to a 12-4-2 record and was named first-team All-America. She was a four-time All-MIAC pick and finished her brilliant soccer



Nikki Epperson '96

career with 49 goals. Epperson started in the backcourt for the 13-12 women's basketball team and was named to the six-member MIAC All-Defensive squad. She averaged 10.6 points a game and led the Scots with 3.1 assists and 2.9 steals per game. ●



Kawika Alo '97



# Math mysteries; Weill and Lenya; ecofeminism

## Which Way Did the Bicycle Go? And Other Intriguing Mathematical Mysteries

by Joseph D.E. Konhauser, Dan Velleman and Stan Wagon (*Mathematical Association of America*, 1996. 300 pages, paperback)

This book contains the best problems selected from more than 25 years of the "Problem of the Week" at Macalester. It is an intriguing collection of 191 problems for students (high school and beyond), teachers at all levels and problem-solvers who enjoy wrestling with the problems of elementary mathematics. Complete solutions are included along with problem variations and topics for investigation.

Readers can compare their sleuthing talents with those of Sherlock Holmes, who made a mistake regarding the first problem in the collection: Determine the direction of travel of a bicycle that has left its tracks in a patch of mud. The collection contains a variety of other problems from geometry, algebra, combinatorics and number theory.

The late Joseph D.E. Konhauser was an avid problemist throughout his years at Macalester (1968–92). He also was editor of the *Pi Mu Epsilon Journal*, and book review editor of the *American Mathematical Monthly*. Dan Velleman teaches at Amherst College. Stan Wagon taught at Smith College until joining Macalester's faculty as a professor of mathematics and computer science in 1990.

Wagon is the author or co-author of two other books recently published by Springer-Verlag Publishers under Springer's TELOS imprint — *The Electronic Library of Science. VisualDSolve: New Frontiers in the Visualization of Differential Equations*, co-written with Dan Schwalbe, a visiting assistant professor at Macalester, is a comprehensive software and book package for the visualization of solutions to ordinary differential equations. The package utilizes the computer algebra system Mathematica to enhance comprehension and visualization of solutions to ordinary differential equations. The DOS-diskette accompanying the book contains the Mathematica programs described and used in the book. These programs are supplied as Mathematica notebooks and packages.



Joseph Konhauser

The same publisher has reissued Wagon's *Animating Calculus: Mathematica Notebooks for the Laboratory*, co-written with Ed

Packel, a professor at Lake Forest College. A tool for experiencing and learning about calculus on the computer, *Animating Calculus* consists of 22 labs containing superior animations and graphics. Subjects range from standard calculus topics to new and unusual extensions and applications, including the Buffon Needle problem, population dynamics, polynomial approximation and rolling square wheels on a road.

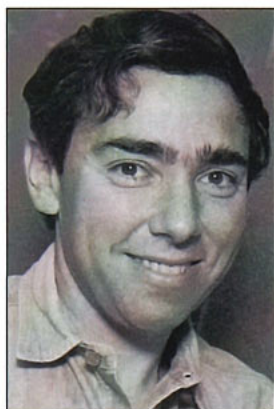
## Ecological Feminist Philosophies

edited by Karen J. Warren  
(*Indiana University Press*, 1996. 270 pages)

Karen Warren, associate professor of philosophy at Macalester, is a pioneering scholar in ecofeminism — the idea that there is an inextricable link between the domination of nature and the domination of women (see page 4). "Many feminists have argued that the goals of these two movements [the women's movement and the environmental movement] are mutually reinforcing and ultimately involve the development of worldviews and practices which are not based on models of domination," Warren writes in the introduction to this first collection of feminist philosophical essays on ecofeminism.

In the book, Warren and 14 other scholars pursue the connections between feminism and environmentalism. Topics include the ecofeminist ethic; the role of patriarchal concepts in perpetuating the domination of women and nature; the grassroots origins and character of a thoughtful ecofeminism; the "ecofeminism-deep ecology debate" in environmental philosophy; deep ecological treatment of animal rights and the omission of ecofeminist analyses of the domination of animals, abortion and nuclear deterrence;

and ways ecofeminism and the science of ecology are or could be engaged in complementary, supportive projects.



Stan Wagon

## Heathens

by David Haynes '77  
(*New Rivers Press*, 1996. 182 pages, \$21.95 cloth)

David Haynes has published two new novels, *Heathens* and *Live at Five* (Milkweed Editions). For a profile of the St. Paul writer, turn to page 17.

## Speak Low (When You Speak Love): The Letters of Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya

edited and translated by Kim H. Kowalke '70 and Lys Symonette  
(*University of California Press*, 1996. 632 pages, \$39.95 cloth)

Together, Kurt Weill and Lotte Lenya have come to symbolize the vibrant culture of Weimar Germany in the 1920s as well as the vital contributions to American culture by Central European emigres. Although she was musically untrained, Lenya's theatrical sensitivity and innate intelligence made her Weill's most trusted critic as well as his most famous interpreter, especially as Jenny in *The Threepenny Opera*. Their relationship was tenacious but tumultuous. Married in 1926, they divorced in 1933, reunited in Paris in 1935 and remarried in New York in 1937.

Their correspondence — first in German and then, after their move to America, in highly flavored English — is published here for the first time. Their uninhibited, intimate and irreverent letters offer a backstage view of German music and theater, the American musical theater in the late 1930s and 1940s, and the Hollywood studios.

Kim Kowalke is professor of musicology at the University of Rochester. He is the editor of two books of essays about Weill and author of *Kurt Weill in Europe* (1979), as well as many scholarly articles on 20th century music and theater. In 1981 he succeeded Lotte Lenya, at her request, as the president of the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music. Lys Symonette, who emigrated from Germany herself and began her collaboration with Weill and Lenya in 1945 as his musical assistant on Broadway, now serves as musical executive of the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music in New York.



### Recent Developments in Fish Otolith Research

edited by David Secor '83, John Dean and Steve Campana (University of South Carolina Press, 1995, Belle W. Baruch Library in Marine Science No. 19. 736 pages)

Fish are slippery animals; they constantly avoid scientists' best efforts to count or measure them. Fortunately, fish

contain "otoliths" (calcified ear-stones) in their heads which serve as flight — or rather, swim — recorders. By interpreting seasonal and daily rings in otoliths, fishery ecologists can measure age, growth and migrations of individual fish.

Dave Secor has termed otoliths "biological CD ROMs" because they continuously record environmental and biological infor-

mation. The information is permanently encoded into the otolith, and can be retrieved by techniques in petrology, image analysis and analytical chemistry. First presented at an international symposium, the 41 essays included in this book explain emerging technologies and practical applications of otolith analysis for reconstructing past lives of fishes.

Secor is an assistant professor with the Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, Center for Environmental and Estuarine Studies, at the University of Maryland. His research and teaching interests include population ecology, life history strategy and migration of marine fishes.

### Ex Voto, Art as Invocation

This catalog for an art exhibition concerning domestic violence, held at the Peninsula Fine Arts Center in Newport News, Va., from Jan. 21 to April 2, 1995, consists of six artists' essays and artwork on the theme. Ruthann Godollei, assistant professor of art at Macalester, contributed a monoprint and an essay on the physical abuse of children to the catalog.

The catalog, which costs \$10, is available directly from the Peninsula Fine Arts Center, P.O. Box 6438, 101 Museum Drive, Newport News, VA 23606, or may be ordered through the Hungry Mind

Bookstore, Macalester's official bookstore (612-699-0587). It is also available at various libraries, art bookstores and mental health facilities.

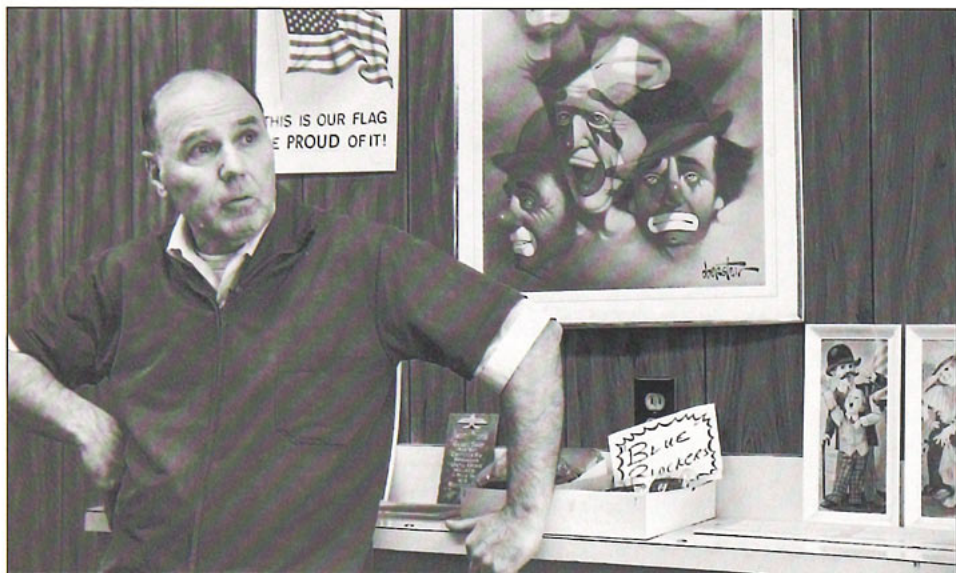
### From the Hidewood:

**Memories of a Dakota Neighborhood**  
by Robert Amerson '50 (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1996.

362 pages, \$32 cloth, \$17.95 paper)

Bob Amerson's memoir explores life on a family farm from times of drought and Depression to World War II. In 21 interwoven stories, the author re-creates life on his family's 160-acre farm in the remote Hidewood Hills of eastern South Dakota from 1934 to 1942. Macalester English Professor Diane Glancy describes his memoir as "energetic, creative non-fiction, giving voice to the various points of view we know history to be. Amerson makes this personal account an exciting re-entry into history — the history of the story of the human heart."

Amerson, now retired after a career in the U.S. Foreign Service, lives in Brewster, Mass., with his wife, Nancy Robb Amerson '49. Last year he published *How Democracy Triumphed Over Dictatorship: Public Diplomacy in Venezuela* (see May 1995 *Macalester Today*). ●



© 1989 MIC HUNTER

One of the 100 photos that appear in Mic Hunter's *The American Barbershop*

## The barbershop, one of America's 'special places'

**The American Barbershop: A Closer Look at a Disappearing Place**  
text and photos by Mic Hunter '79 (Face to Face Books, 1996. 176 pages, \$19.95 paperback)

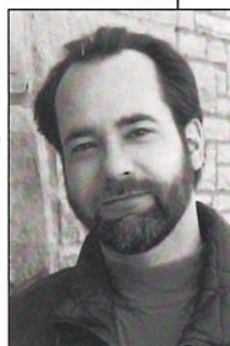
Mic Hunter of St. Paul makes his living as a psychotherapist, not a photographer. But in this ode to American neighborhood barbershops — part photo essay, part cultural history and personal reminiscence — he quotes a barber who told him: "We are in the same line of work. We both get paid to listen to people's problems. I carry other people's pain the same way you do, son. I just also give them a haircut to remember me by."

Hunter took the 100 photos of barbershops in this book, in 35 states, from 1982 until this year. He also spoke with many barbers. "This project is not and was never meant to be a thorough scholarly examination of the historical, political, social and psychological aspects of barbering," Hunter writes in the preface. "I merely set out to document the vanishing of an important component of my childhood."

In the foreword to the book, Macalester history Professor Norman Rosenberg writes that it is one of a growing number of historically oriented studies that look at "special places" — such as the school room, factory floor, front porch and backyard — where "cultural practices and values were transferred, and transformed, across generations.

"This book," Rosenberg adds, "encouraged me to reflect on a very special place to my own times: a one-chair shop in which a Holocaust survivor blended the barbering rituals of pre-Nazi Poland to those of the American Middle West. Where else in Lincoln, Nebraska, could a young boy learn Yiddish slang while simultaneously perusing the latest popular comic books?"

"I am confident," Rosenberg concludes, "that even those who are using Mic Hunter's wonderful book to enter the traditional barbershop for the first time will find themselves reflecting on the multi-layered, and highly gendered, meanings of a unique, and perhaps endangered, place in American life." ●



Mic Hunter '79

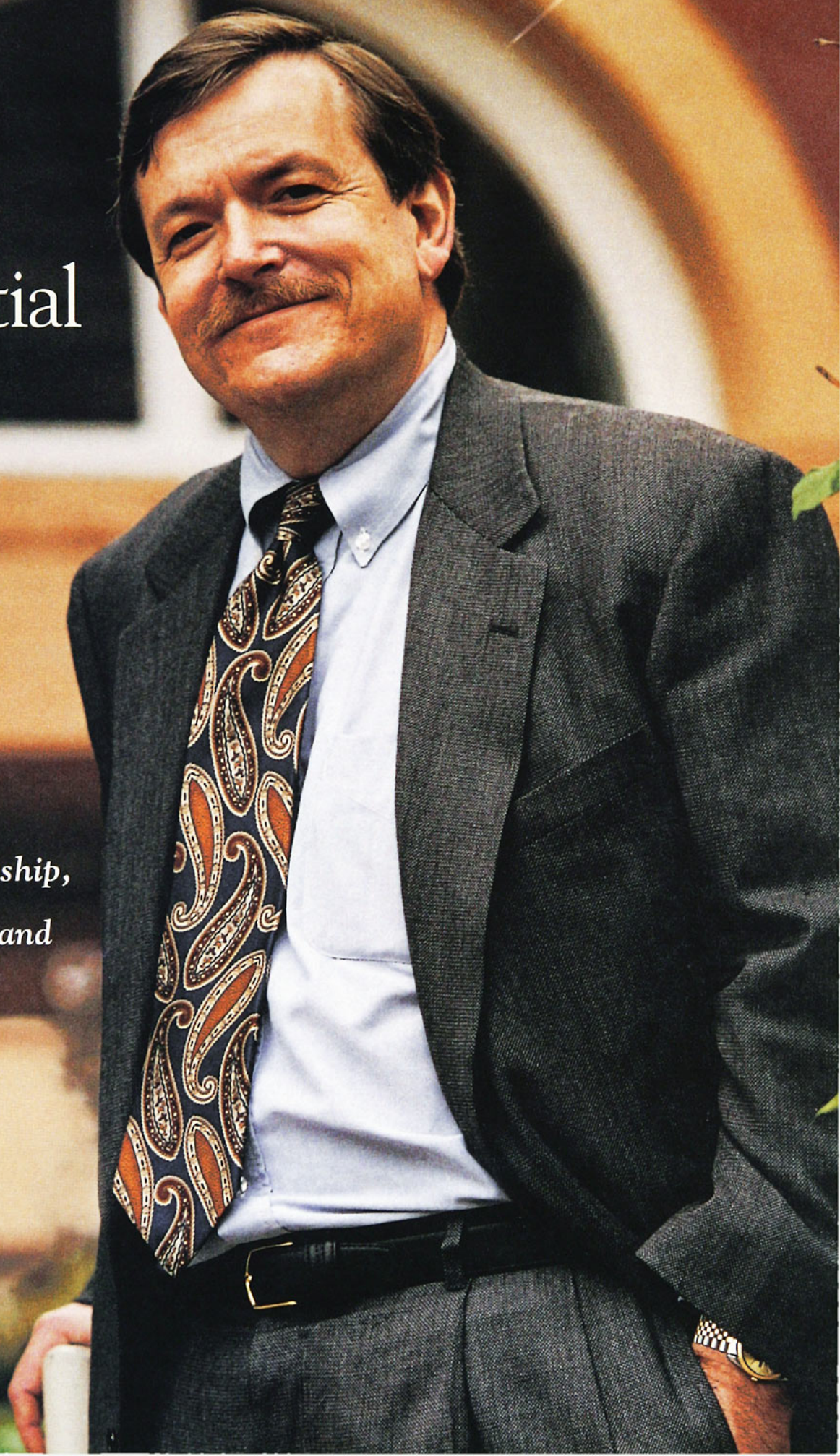
KATE AN GREENBAUM HUNTER '78



# Presidential Portrait

*Coming home  
to the Midwest  
as Macalester's  
new president,  
Mike McPherson  
brings a record  
of brilliant scholarship,  
proven leadership and  
personal warmth*

*by Jon Halvorsen*





**M**IKE MCPHERSON is a serious scholar who has written or edited seven books on weighty themes — and such a naturally funny man that people remember his jokes for years afterward.

- A brilliant student who entered the University of Chicago at 17 and earned a B.A. in mathematics in three years, he has spent most of the past 32 years at two of the nation's most prestigious academic institutions. Yet he is especially admired by other academics for his common-sense approach to real-life problems.

- A product of the University of Chicago's renowned economics program, where he earned his Ph.D., he is not a "Chicago conservative" and belongs to no "school" of economists. He is just as concerned with moral issues as how the market operates, and in fact created a course at Williams College in which his students could study "Markets and Morals."

- As the chief academic officer at Williams, he was a highly respected leader, largely because of his listening skills.

- At ease with the works of economists and philosophers, he quotes John Stuart Mill, Paul Samuelson and John Rawls in his new book. He also admires the Ph.D's of blues and rock guitar, and can be found playing Jimi Hendrix and B.B. King on his electric guitar in jam sessions at home with his two sons.

On Aug. 1, Michael S. McPherson officially became Macalester's 15th president. For the 49-year-old economist and teacher, Minnesota feels close to a homecoming. He grew up in Milwaukee,

#### MIDWESTERN VALUES — AND MACALESTER'S

**M**Y WIFE and I both grew up in the Midwest. . . . I find here an openness, a comfort with one another, a lack of pretension, a kind of democratic feel in the way people think about things. That seems to me enormously attractive. The longstanding commitment Macalester has to internationalism, diversity, service learning and public service — those are all values that I feel very close to and am delighted to embrace.'

— Mike McPherson, *interview, March 12, 1996*

the son of a fuel oil truck driver and a homemaker, and he still identifies with Midwestern values. As McPherson himself said at a news conference at Macalester last March, those values may be difficult to define but they're not hard to sense. Honest, open, down to earth, unpretentious, democratic, fair — that's what a "Midwesterner" is supposed to be.

GREG HELGESON



The president-elect was given a Macalester tartan tie at his welcoming convocation in March.

Those are also words that fit McPherson, according to colleagues, friends and former students who have known him during the past two decades.

"He combines qualities that I prize very highly," says Amy Gutmann, dean of the faculty at Princeton, who got to know McPherson when both were visiting fellows at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study in 1981–82. "He has great intellectual ability and imagination, and tremendous administrative expertise as well. Which means he's extraordinarily smart and common-sensical at the same time."

"Mike is a strong leader, highly respected by our faculty for his knowledge of the American college scene," says Bud Wobus, chair of Williams' Geology Department. "He is a careful listener, fair beyond question, efficient beyond belief and just plain smart! At the same time, he's very down to earth, easy to approach and quick to respond — by e-mail usually."

Henry Bruton, a retired economics professor, was instrumental in hiring McPherson at Williams in 1974. "He's always so willing to listen and to reflect on what you say. He's an ideal small college faculty member and administrator," Bruton

*Jon Halvorsen is managing editor of Macalester Today.*



says. He describes McPherson's style of leadership at Williams as "government by conversation more than by edict or rules. 'Government by conversation' is an old term but one that often comes to mind when I think about Mike as dean [of the faculty]."

In 1989, 15 years after he was hired, McPherson was chair of the Economics Department, and Kaye Husbands was one of the economics faculty he recruited. Describing his more recent myriad responsibilities as dean —

hiring new faculty, managing current faculty, teaching, writing, editing an academic journal — Husbands says "it's amazing how much he gets done in a given day." She, too, praises his style. "He leads by allowing people to think through themselves what are the reasonable alternatives, or at least presenting some reasonable alternatives and allowing the situation to evolve. He knows what he's doing, so it's not as though he doesn't have control of the situation. But when you're dealing with people, especially with academics, you need to allow them to come to conclusions as well," Husbands says.

"Mike is wonderfully suited to administrative work because his ego doesn't get in the way," says Barbara Takenaga, co-chair of Williams' art department. "He has a wonderful way of being able to tell you 'no,'

firmly, when he needs to, but in a way that makes it seem very reasonable and right that he should have to say 'no' to you. That's very rare for someone in his position. I always feel he's genuinely concerned with trying to do the best by the college. . . . When you think of people who should be in positions of power and the kind of attitude they should have about it, he's a great example of how to do it right."

Morton Schapiro, a former Williams economics professor who is now dean of the College of Letters,

## ROCKIN' AT THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE

I HAVE two sons, Sean and Steve, who are first-rate rock and blues guitarists.

I eagerly await what I think will be a first in American higher education: Undergraduates coming over to the President's house to ask us to turn down the music.'

— McPherson addressing his welcoming convocation at Macalester in March

JIM HANSEN



## Michael S. McPherson

Age: 49

**Family:** wife, Marge, a former elementary schoolteacher; two sons, Sean, 15, and Steven, 19, a sophomore this fall at Wesleyan University

**Raised:** Milwaukee, Wis., where his father, Joseph, was a fuel oil truck driver and his mother, Lorraine, a homemaker. Both are deceased. His sister, Nancy Jaeger, a homemaker, still lives in Milwaukee; his brother, Joe, an electrical engineering professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, died last year of a heart attack

**Education:** entered University of Chicago at 17 as a Presidential Scholar in first year of program; finished B.A. in mathematics in three years, "but made up for a fast start by taking seven years to get my Ph.D." in economics at Chicago

**Williams College:** joined economics faculty in 1974 as assistant professor; held several key positions, including two terms as chair of Economics Department, before being named dean of the faculty in 1994

**Books:** author and editor of seven books, most recently *Economic Analysis and Moral Philosophy* (1996, Cambridge University Press)

**Ethnic background:** "My heritage is German, with a touch of Scandinavian, and probably some Scottish ancestry. But the names McPherson and Macalester do have a certain resonance which I hope we can take advantage of." •

Mike and Marge McPherson attended Macalester's Commencement in May.



Arts and Sciences at the University of Southern California, is one of McPherson's closest friends and collaborators. Since they met when Schapiro was hired by Williams in 1980, they have co-authored four books and 60 articles. Their friendship has never suffered any strain, Schapiro says, "because he is so generous, he doesn't have a big ego." In the early days of their collaboration, when McPherson was far better known in the field of higher education, he would accept invitations to give a talk only if Schapiro, his junior by six years, was invited, too. "He'd insist that they would take me so that I'd get the exposure, too, and then he'd insist on splitting the honorarium with me. He's an extraordinarily generous guy."

Schapiro has enjoyed playing guitar with McPherson at the latter's home in Williamstown, Mass. Schapiro describes the house as "one big studio. There are several keyboards, basses, all kinds of guitars.... Everybody just goes over to his house

and you just plug in, and everybody starts doing 'All Along the Watchtower.' Mike's real good. His sons are *really* good." Schapiro, who often confers with McPherson by phone, has only one complaint about his friend. "The killer with the time difference [between Los Angeles and Williamstown] is that I'm constantly calling him during his damn guitar lesson," Schapiro laments. "He'll take my call for almost anything

because we're such longstanding friends — but not to interrupt a guitar lesson."

Don Carlson, a 1983 Williams graduate who is now a lawyer in Washington, D.C., has known McPherson in several roles: as his student, his teaching assistant, a colleague from 1990 to 1992 when McPherson hired him as a visiting professor, and now a friend. "I remember the day he got tenure at Williams," Carlson, then a freshman, recalls. "He was very enthusiastic. He walked into

our classroom and said, 'I have good news. Short of a morals charge, they can't get rid of me until the year 2012.' He's a very witty guy."

McPherson is also a gifted teacher, Carlson says. McPherson designed a course, "Markets and Morals," which looked at the moral foundations of a capitalist economy, and brought in two Nobel laureates to speak to students about the relation-

## ON MEETING ALUMNI

**I** AM greatly looking forward to getting around the country, and eventually the world, giving alumni a chance to get to know me a bit and to give me a chance to learn more about the college through learning their perspectives.'

— Mike McPherson, speaking this June

ship between economic principles and moral values. Carlson was so excited by the course that later, as a teaching fellow at Harvard, he taught it as a sophomore tutorial. "Mike gave me complete liberty to steal the whole thing, and it became wonderfully popular at Harvard. I got all kinds of credit for it, when it was virtually 100 percent Mike's idea."

Carlson regrets that McPherson's duties as chair of the Economics Department and then dean

GREG HELGESON



The president-elect meets alumni during Reunion in May. At right is Barbara Phillips Sullivan '71, one of Macalester's 1996 Distinguished Citizens (see page 25).

STEVE WOIT







## Economics, moral and political philosophy: McPherson's scholarship makes a difference

AMY GUTMANN got to know Mike McPherson well in 1981–82 when both were fellows at Princeton's Institute of Advanced Study, enrolled in a seminar.

"As the seminar went on," says Gutmann, whose field is moral and political philosophy, "I was more and more impressed by how smart this fellow philosopher was."

"When I found out he was an economist, I was totally bowled over. He is unique among the people I know who are interested in education, economics, moral and political philosophy. [In fact], I don't know many people like that."

Although he earned his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago, McPherson's work goes well beyond what the layman understands as "economics." For example, his new book, just published by Cambridge University Press, is entitled *Economic Analysis and Moral Philosophy*. Co-authored with Daniel Hausman, a professor of philosophy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, it shows how understanding moral philosophy can improve economic analysis, and how moral philosophy can benefit by drawing on insights and analytical tools from economics. McPherson and Hausman co-founded an academic journal, *Economics and Philosophy*, as a forum for scholars in those fields who wished to cross disciplines and build on each other's work. They recently retired as editors after a decade in which they raised the journal to scholarly prominence.

Gutmann, now dean of the faculty at Princeton, says she and McPherson share a keen interest in such fundamental questions of moral and political philosophy as: How do you educate citizens for a democratic society? How do you combine freedom and responsibility? They also pursue questions of distributive justice: What's a fair system of taxation? What's a fair system of property distribution?

"All of those are questions that are quite basic in political philosophy," Gutmann says. "If you pick up Mike's work, he pursues them at a level that's both insightful and comprehensible to anyone who would be interested in reading it. Mike's work is very unpretentious. No jargon — just sharpness, insight, good sense."

McPherson is a national authority on the economics of higher education. He and former Williams colleague Morton Schapiro, an economist who is now a dean at the University of Southern California, are just completing their fourth book

on the subject, *Meeting Need and Rewarding Talent: Student Aid in American Higher Education*. It re-examines the issue raised by the title of their 1991 book, *Keeping College Affordable: Government and Educational Opportunity*. Their new book traces the history of student aid, analyzes the effect on who goes to college and where they go, and discusses the differential philosophical and economic underpinnings of need-based financial aid versus merit aid.

McPherson and Schapiro write about issues that affect many people's lives: how to use need-based financial aid in the most effective way possible; the economic and social effects of selective admissions; the morality and economic impact of merit aid; how to measure school quality.

"He has been a sort of mentor to me," Schapiro says. "I've learned a tremendous amount working with him. I learned that you could do work that's of great practical interest

'MIKE's work is very unpretentious.

No jargon —

just sharpness,

insight, good sense.'

— Amy Gutmann,  
dean at Princeton

that is still well grounded [academically]."

For each paper the two write for a learned journal, they often write a popular version; their op-ed pieces have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *Los Angeles Times*. Columnist Jane Bryant Quinn has quoted from their work three times, most recently in the April 29 *Newsweek*. Both have testified before Congress. Schapiro also does regular commentaries on National Public Radio, drawing directly from his research with McPherson.

"We both like to work on subjects that not only are interesting from an intellectual point of view but also can make a difference," Schapiro says. "We have gone to great efforts to study subjects that could really affect people in a positive way."

— Jon Halvorsen

STEVE WOIT





greatly reduced his teaching at Williams in recent years. "I literally find myself going back to the notes from his classes," Carlson says, "because he has a gift for expressing ideas in very human and compelling terms."

It isn't just college students with whom McPherson can communicate. Tom Bleezarde, editor of the Williams alumni magazine, recalls how

McPherson led a seminar on the state budgeting process for freshmen legislators in Massachusetts.

"This is a pretty deep, meaty, boring topic, and he kept everybody on the edge of their seats for 45 minutes to an hour, whether or not they had any abiding interest in what he was talking about. He had those people asking all sorts of questions when he got done.... He's real good at reading an audience, interpreting what they want and feeding it to them."

His sense of humor helps. "There are so many

funny things he's said that I just think of him and kind of smile," says Princeton's Amy Gutmann. "People in his position and mine obviously have to think seriously about everything from faculty tenure to fund raising, and it's a delight to have someone who can make any topic something fun to talk about."

What will McPherson bring to Macalester as its president?

"He's a wonderful teacher and a

Students talk with the new president after the welcoming convocation.

## MACALESTER'S RIGHTFUL PLACE

**G**IVEN its innovation and its commitment to core values that are going to be even more important in the coming decades — like internationalism, diversity and service — Macalester can be a national leader in figuring out, and then articulating to broader publics, how one most effectively addresses those kinds of goals. I'd like to see Macalester move further into its rightful place as one of the leading institutions in American higher education, "leading" not so much in the sense of where it ranks on the *U.S. News* scorecard but leading in the sense that it's a place to which people look, a place with interesting ideas and a dynamic conception of how to make education work in a world that's changing very fast.'

— McPherson in an interview in March



JIM HANSEN

McPherson answers a newspaper reporter's question after a news conference.

wonderful scholar," says Morty Schapiro at USC. "But it just seems to me that he can do a lot more good by ascending to a presidency.... He listens very well, he doesn't have a big ego and he cares about people. He can relate very well to people from all different backgrounds. He's just a very special, well-rounded, considerate kind of person. You'll like him; he's really cool." ●

## Inauguration

MIKE MCPHERSON will be formally inaugurated as Macalester's 15th president at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 15, in the college's Field House. More information will appear in future issues of *Macalester Today*. ●



JIM HANSEN



# Double Exposure

In two new novels, David Haynes '77 illuminates complex truths about the everyday lives of black Americans

by Carolyn Griffith

IF THE Guinness Book of World Records has a category for book publishing, surely David Haynes '77 deserves a listing in the 1996 edition. This year, he's published two new novels, with two different publishers; a third brought out the paperback edition of one of his earlier works.



Milkweed Editions published Haynes' *Live at Five* in March, just before New Rivers Press, another Minneapolis publisher, introduced his *Heathens* in April. As negotiated by Milkweed, its original publisher, Harvest Books/Harcourt Brace put out *Somebody Else's Mama* as its lead paperback title. Collaborating on advertising and promotion, the three publishers sent him on a promotional tour across much of the United States.

Meanwhile, the kudos are piling up: Favorable write-ups in the *New York Times Book Review*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist* and *BookPage*, *Dallas Morning News*. Broadcasting of his work on National Public Radio's "Selected Shorts." An award from the American Library Association.

And the ultimate accolade from the *creme de la creme*: In June, the prestigious literary magazine *Granta* named Haynes one of the 20 "Best Young American Novelists" under the age of 40, as adjudged by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Robert Stone,

Anne Tyler, Tobias Wolff and *Granta* editor Ian Jack.

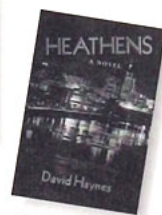
With wry humor, Haynes' novels reveal the intra-racial complexities and racist contradictions that African Americans have to wade through as they face the challenges of everyday life — growing up, raising children, keeping a marriage alive, coping with aging parents.

"Only a slender slice of the spectrum of African American experience gets told, usually based on what someone thinks will sell," he notes, listing some of the stereotyped plots we might see on the movie of the week, "like black women as victims of black men, or ghetto life 101. I didn't live either of these stories."

Haynes gets a bit skittish when you ask him to talk about his own story; he's much more comfortable discussing the lives of his characters. But he has written eloquently about growing up in a working-class suburb of St. Louis, in an essay for *Imagining Home: Writing from the Midwest*, published by University of Minnesota Press last year. Describing an incident where a white boy insisted that Haynes couldn't possibly have seen the latest film at the local cinema, because "they don't allow no niggers in the Gem," he relates:

Already at nine years old I remember how tired I was of having white people assume they knew better than I did the facts of my own life. Which explains maybe why I can with a benign expression on my face and with what may even appear to be patience sit quietly when editors reject my work on the grounds it does not represent an authentic "black" experience. Breckenridge Hills was a good training ground for many aspects of life.

Critiquing *Somebody Else's Mama* for the *New York Times Book Review*, novelist Jill McCorkle



ONLY a slender slice of the spectrum of African American experience gets told, usually based on what someone thinks will sell.'

Carolyn Griffith is a St. Paul free-lance writer. She wrote about "Net Prophets" — recent Macalester grads who have created businesses dealing with the Internet — in the May issue of *Macalester Today*.



noted Haynes' "flawless ear" and his ability to give his characters vibrant, sharp-tongued voices. Reviewing *Live at Five*, *Publishers Weekly* called Haynes "a sharp-eyed observer of race and class issues."

While his stories focus on the lives of black people, with whites as largely incidental players, he by no means discriminates when illuminating his characters'

foibles. Misapprehension about others, in particular, is an equal-opportunity pastime in Haynes' novels. But by the end of each novel's series of events — absurd, hilarious, telling, poignant events — the central characters have moved towards a better appreciation of each other as individuals, rather than as stereotypes.

Irony is one of the most potent pigments in Haynes' palette, and he layers it on like a master. In *Live at Five*, for example, the TV show that black viewers habitually choose over main character Brandon Wilson's newscast is "The Facts of Life," in reruns ad nauseum. The sitcom features young Tootie, a rich black girl among other rich girls at a posh boarding school.

"Tootie just *happens* to be black, which is how 1980s TV 'raceland' worked," Haynes points out. "The show is so insipid, and it's always on somewhere — but it's like a car wreck, you have to watch it. You can't turn away."

The teachers, students and classroom struggles that figure heavily in Haynes' work ring with verisimilitude, which makes sense, since he taught sixth grade for 15 years, and currently works as a

## Sunday in St. Paul: an excerpt from *Heathens*

ON A Sunday afternoon in April Marcus Gabriel and his son Ali are trapped in the express lane at the Highland Park Country Lane market. In the middle of preparing a batch of dump cookies as a peace offering to Marcus's mother, Verda, they have run out of sugar. Marcus hates days like this: cool, bugless spring days when every Lutheran in St. Paul starts the car only to drive around aimlessly. The Catholics, too. Outside the grocery the streets are clotted with traffic — much worse than State Fair time. At least at fair time the Lutherans and the Catholics and the farmers stay up by the fairgrounds. Driving the two miles from Tangletown to the supermarket, no less than four drivers courteously yielded the right-of-way to Marcus. "All that niceness," Marcus said to Ali. "That's what causes accidents."




The author at home in St. Paul's Irvine Park. Haynes taught sixth grade for 15 years, and currently spends part of the year as a teacher-in-residence with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in Washington, D.C.

teacher-in-residence with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in Washington, D.C., where he spends part of the year. An English major at Macalester, he taught briefly in St. Louis and after a few years returned to St. Paul, which he now calls home. He holds an M.A. from Hamline University.

Haynes developed many of his views on teaching while working closely with Macalester education Professor Arnie Holtz. "He taught a holistic approach — a vision of learning where teacher and student are in partnership, working toward an end," Haynes explains, noting that he used this philosophy of education in creating a character, teacher





Kathy O'Hare, in *Right by My Side*. "She's trying to teach this way, but she's not getting it. She's trying to engage the boys as individuals, rather than as cogs in the system. Unfortunately, she has ulterior motives."

Haynes started writing "seriously" in 1984, generating material during the summer, then revising during the school year. The two professions nourish each other, he says: "You get a lot back from teaching, and writing is a meditation that allows one to focus and be more present for his students."

He finished *Right by My Side* in 1987, then *Somebody Else's Mama* in 1989 and *Heathens* in 1992. "I wasn't thinking about marketing the books," Haynes admits. "I had an agent in the late

'80s, but she didn't place anything." Haynes entered *Right by My Side* in New Rivers' Minnesota Voices Project in 1992, and won, then submitted *Somebody Else's Mama* to Milkweed's National Fiction Prize competition. Haynes didn't win that

'ALREADY at nine years old I remember how tired I was of having white people assume they knew better than I did the facts of my own life.'

one, but editor Emilie Buchwald liked the book enough to publish it anyway.

If working with three publishing houses simultaneously — bringing out three titles simultaneously — is a little unusual, Haynes is unaware of any worries that this might negatively affect sales of any of the books. "Nobody seemed concerned — at least not enough to change a publication date," he says.

Meanwhile, Haynes is at work on his next book, and has "three or four more ideas in the queue."

"I only started really thinking of myself as a writer about six or seven months ago," he confesses, a few days before launching his book tour with a publication party at the Hungry Mind Bookstore, next to Macalester.

It's about time. ●

## The write stuff: David Haynes' works

### • *Right by My Side*:

Street-smart St. Louis teenager Marshall Field Finney starts writing down the story of his life in a suburban high school ("all crap and lies, smug rich white kids and deadly dull teachers") to make sense of it all. (New Rivers Press, 1993; winner in New Rivers' annual Minnesota Voices Project;

named a Best Book for Young Adults by the American Library Association)

• *Somebody Else's Mama*: Chronicles the struggles of Paula and Al Johnson and their twin sons, affluent and prominent citizens in a small, almost exclusively African American Missouri town. Their lives are turned upside down when Paula insists on taking in Al's ailing, cantankerous mother-in-law, Miss Xenobia Kezee, despite her oft-stated desire to be back in her own home in St. Paul. (Milkweed Editions, 1995; named Best Adult Book by Friends of American Writers; finalist for Milkweed's National Fiction Prize; paperback edition, Harvest Books/Harcourt Brace, 1996)

• *Heathens*: Invokes a chorus of voices, all eager to tell their side of the Gabriel family story:

elementary teacher Marcus; his significant other LaDonna, serving a short term in the Shakopee Women's Detention Center; their teen-age son Ali; Marcus' mother Verda, who would love to oust "trashy" LaDonna from her son's life. (New Rivers Press, 1996; Minnesota Voices Project winner)

• *Live at Five*: Brandon Wilson, a middle-class African American news anchor with a penthouse, meets Nita, an inner-city single mom juggling two kids, night school and a job. Their lives intersect when Brandon's ratings-hungry white producer sends him to live in the apartment building Nita manages, thence to broadcast the "real" story of black life in St. Paul. When the station demands something sensational, the two find their loyalties caught up in a media circus that only Nita can tame. (Milkweed Editions, 1996)

• *Forthcoming*: In 1997, Milkweed will bring out Haynes' next adult novel — its working title is *All American Dream Dolls* — about a woman in her late 30s who winds up living in her mother's basement for a summer, and develops a relationship with her teen-age sister. Milkweed has also asked Haynes to write a series of children's books, called *The West Seventh Wildcats*; the series' first two stories, *The Gumma Wars* and *Business as Usual*, will come out early next year ●



# Reunion & Commencement at Macalester 1996

*For the first time,  
Macalester combined its two biggest events in a single,  
college-wide celebration, May 24–26. Here are some pictures  
from the Mac family album.*



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*Above: Enjoying the all-college reception on Shaw Field the Friday evening before Commencement are Lauren Billings '96 (Albany, Calif.), third from right, with her parents, James and Marcia Billings, and her step-grandmother, Mary Billings. Joining them are Molly Rogers '96 (Long Lake, Minn.), right, and Molly's younger sister, Liz Rogers, left.*  
*Right: The graduating class of 411 seniors included Laura Cromey '96 (East St. Paul) and Stephen Jenkins '96 (Boise, Idaho).*



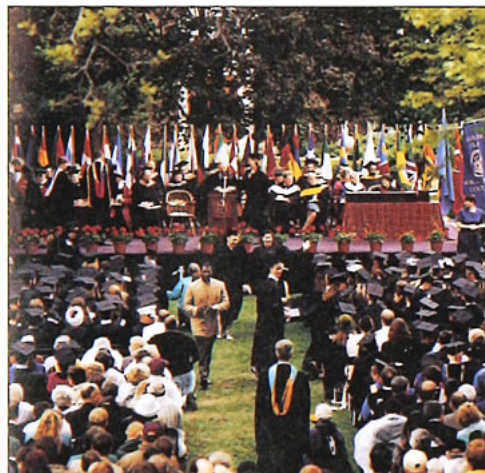
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*Left:* The Class of '46 led the parade of reunion classes, and leading the way were Wendy Otto Carey '46 (Cape Elizabeth, Maine), far left, and Marion Primeau Kole '46 (Green Valley, Ariz.), followed by Gordon Deegan '46 (San Carlos, Calif.) and George Suzuki '47 (Minneapolis)



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*Above:* Anna Caples Majors '83 (Brooklyn Park, Minn.), with her two children, Chelsey and Curtis, at Sunday's gospel brunch. *Middle left:* A shot of Commencement. *Left:* Edward Mallen '71 and Rene Wilhelm Mallen '71 (Andover, Mass.) share a laugh with friends at their Class of '71 dinner.



GREG HELGESON



# Reunion & Commencement at Macalester 1996

GREG HELGESON



*Above:* Three friends at the gospel brunch: Dorothy Smith Paravati '36 (Ocala, Fla.), left, Elizabeth Drake '36 (Minneapolis) and Mary Bell Reynolds '36 (San Diego). *Top right:* Charles Rossmann '86 (Boulder, Colo.), with the banner, and David Chidsey '86 (Deerfield, Mass.) go to the head of the class. *Right:* Captain William Bowell '49, second from right, with some of the Macalester seniors who joined him on his boat for the senior cruise down the Mississippi. The cruise was the kickoff event of Senior Week for graduating seniors.

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*Left:* Professor Jan Serie shares a light moment with Mani Mokalla '96 (Salem, Ore.) at a reception for alumni biology majors. *Right:* Classmates (from left) Marilyn Ellis Curry '46 (Ames, Iowa), Wendy Otto Carey '46 (Cape Elizabeth, Maine) and Mary Reeves Pruitt '46 (West St. Paul) talk after the 50-Year Club induction.



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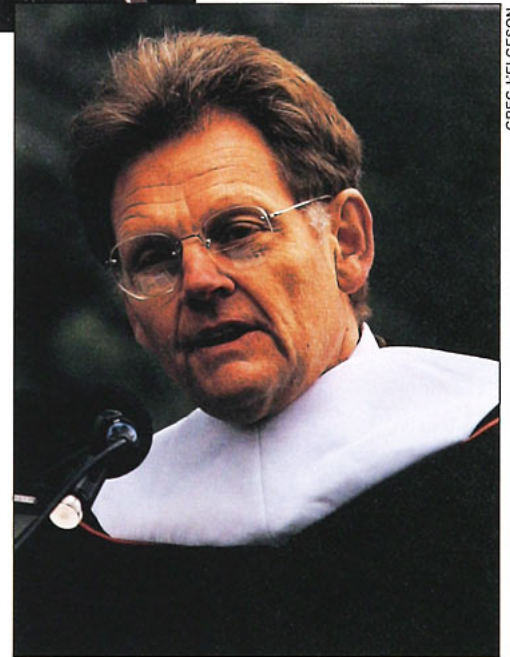




*Left:* The Grammy Award-winning gospel group Sounds of Blackness, which got its start at Macalester, performed at a special Sunday gospel brunch for alumni in Cochran Lounge of the Student Union. The group is led by Gary Hines '74 (Minneapolis), speaking at the microphone at right. The ensemble began in 1969 as the Macalester College Black Choir before changing its name in 1971 to the Sounds of Blackness. "We thank the entire institution for supporting us from day one," Hines said.



*Above:* Jon Hollister '91 (Kaneohe, Hawaii) carries the banner for the class. *Right:* Orest Ranum '55, a distinguished historian at Johns Hopkins University who has written admired studies of the history of Paris and 17th century historical writing, received an honorary degree at Commencement. The other honorary degree recipients were Philippa Marrack, a pioneering immunologist, and Ronald Takaki, a scholar and writer known for his insightful study of multiculturalism in America.





Reunion  
& Commencement  
at Macalester  
1996

# Macalester's 1996 Distinguished Citizens

## Chester A. Anderson '41

**C**HET ANDERSON, who died Feb. 28, spent his adult life helping people in a very direct way. He practiced family medicine in Hector, Minn., for nearly 40 years. "He was the old make-the-house-calls-in-the-blizzard doctor," one

of his four daughters, Carolyn Holmsten, recalled. Although always busy, the soft-spoken Dr. Anderson "listened to everybody," his daughter said. "He made them feel as though there was nothing else he would rather do than take care of them." A founder of the Minnesota Family Practice Network and a former president of the Minnesota Medical Association, Dr. Anderson was named the nation's Family Doctor of the Year in 1983. Even when he "retired" in 1985, he served as medical director for five nursing homes. He also somehow found time and energy to be active in the commu-

nity, as a lay leader in the United Methodist Church, a member of the Hector School Board and an activist in Republican Party politics. Dr. Anderson credited notable Macalester Professor O.T. Walter, and the college, with giving him an excellent education and preparation for medical

school. In turn, he felt "a responsibility to help those who come along after us," and became a very generous benefactor to the college. His major contributions to Macalester include support for the Olin-Rice renovation project, an endowed scholarship fund and a charitable remainder annuity trust.

## Roger L. Awsumb '51

**W**HEN TV WAS YOUNG, countless children in Minnesota grew up watching "your old buddy, Casey Jones." That was the friendly character Roger Awsumb portrayed on Channel 11's lunchtime show for kids. The St. Paul native studied speech and radio at Macalester, where he started in radio broadcasting at the college station, before becoming one of the most popular TV personalities in Minnesota history. From 1953 to 1972 on Channel 11, and then for five more years at KITN-TV, he did more than 8,000 shows as Casey Jones. His TV partners included Chris Wedes '49, who played "Patches," and the late Lynn Dwyer '57, who played "Roundhouse Rodney." Another friend is John P. Gallos '49 of WCCO, who played "Clancy the Cop." Casey Jones' guests included police officers and zoo animals, a dentist who talked about teeth and a mechanic to explain how cars work. Children adored Casey. After all, as Roger Awsumb once explained, "a train engineer is a hero to kids." He took his job seriously, visiting schools and churches and attending civic functions throughout Minnesota, but it was never just a job. "I always cared about kids," Roger Awsumb once said. In 1993, when he retired after a decade as a radio broadcaster on Breezy Point station KLKS, the

PHOTOS BY GREG HELGESON



Chester A. Anderson '41



Roger L. Awsumb '51





Barbara Phillips Sullivan '71

Minnesota Broadcasters Association gave him a special award. That same year, Gov. Arne Carlson proclaimed "Casey Jones-Roger L. Awsumb Day" in Minnesota on the occasion of Casey's — make that Roger's — 65th birthday.

## Barbara Phillips Sullivan '71

"I WANT PEOPLE TO HAVE A SENSE of community because we celebrate differences, not because we're afraid of them," Barbara Phillips Sullivan has said. Since 1976, when she became a practicing lawyer, the Macalester history major and Northwestern University Law School graduate has used the law to bring about social change and to broaden participation in the political process. She has specialized in voting rights litigation and other civil rights issues in Mississippi, Virginia and California. She helped win a case against the Mississippi state textbook purchasing board that gave ninth graders in Mississippi the opportunity to read a new kind of textbook, one which accurately

### THE DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

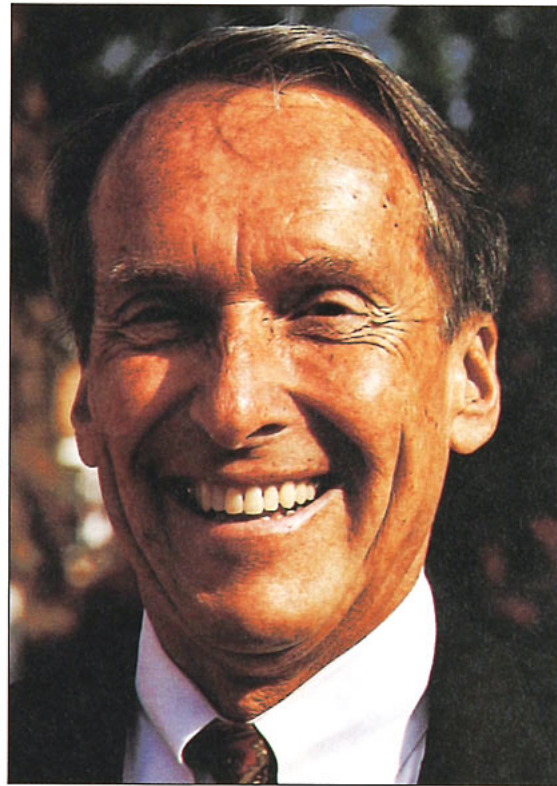
Citation recognizes alumni who have exercised leadership in civic, social, religious and professional activities. It is given because the Alumni Association, the Board of Trustees and the faculty of Macalester hold that a college education should be the training and inspiration for unselfish and effective service to the community, the nation and the world. Recipients demonstrate a practical acceptance of these obligations in their lives and work. To nominate an alumnus or alumna for the 1997 Distinguished Citizen Citations, please write the Alumni Office no later than Nov. 1, 1996.

portrayed slavery, Reconstruction and the civil rights movement in their state. She was involved in amending the Voting Rights Act in 1982. In San Francisco, where she worked for 12 years, she was a court-appointed monitor of the city's fire department to ensure compliance with a decree resolving issues of race and sex discrimination. In 1994, she became the first African American woman on the University of Mississippi's law school faculty. As America becomes increasingly multi-racial and multi-ethnic, Barbara Phillips Sullivan is working as a lawyer, scholar and teacher to build a more just society, one that embraces differences. "Real diversity isn't quiet, it isn't tranquil," she said. "It's rowdy, it's lively, it's challenging. That's what a meaningful life should be for."

## Richard Eichhorn '51

DICK EICHHORN of Champlin, Minn., has combined a successful career in business and expertise in entrepreneurship with a profound and lasting commitment to Macalester. A co-founder of CPT

Corporation, now a private investor and business adviser who sits on eight corporate boards, Eichhorn served as a trustee from 1984 to 1995, and has been an Alumni Board member, alumni admissions volunteer, class agent and Annual Fund co-chair. He is a Phonathon volunteer and a member of his reunion planning committee, M Club and the Heritage Society. He has donated computers to the college, and recently gave a freeze dryer to the Biology and Chemistry Departments to aid student and faculty research. He has supported the library and student scholarships. But his most personal contributions may be to Macalester's Economics Department, where he



Richard Eichhorn '51

funded an entrepreneurship program for more than a decade and often gives lectures. "What he gives us is his time," says Professor Karl Egge. "If I ask him for assistance, he always comes over. It's wonderful to have an alum in the local community who will meet with students, look at their business ideas, and tell them the importance of dedication, honesty and hard work in achieving your vision." In 1995, when the Economics Department established an annual prize for a graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding scholarship and a talent for entrepreneurship, it was named after Dick Eichhorn. ●



# Reunion & Commencement at Macalester 1996



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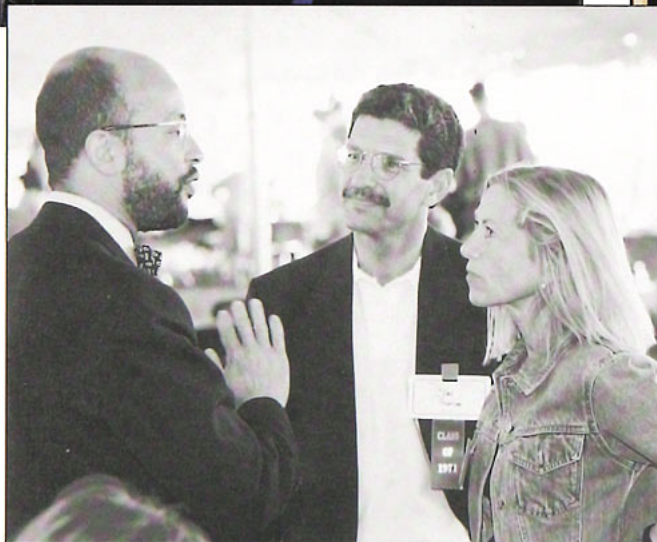
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*Above:* The procession of flags of the nations represented by Macalester students. Shown are (from left) Jennifer Brav '96 (Paris, France), Ricardo Fernandez '96 (San Pedro Sula, Honduras) and Gretcher Rohr '98 (Billings, Mont.). *Top right:* Attending the Alumni Association awards banquet were Shirl Ahrens '62 (Oldsmar, Fla.), left, who is a member of the Alumni Board, history Professor Norm Rosenberg and Barbara Phillips Sullivan '71 (University, Miss.), a 1996 Distinguished Citizen. *Right:* the piper calls the clan.



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*Above:* John Davis, former Macalester president, talks with Edward Alatorre '86 (San Jose, Calif.), center, and Michael Arney '92 (St. Paul). *Right:* Richard Ammons, left, Macalester's vice president for development, talks with Jim Barron '71 and Elizabeth Fager Barron '72 of Denver, Colo.



JIM HANSEN



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*Left:* Speakers at the M Club's annual Breakfast of Champions included Morrey Nellis '73, right, director of intramurals and assistant soccer coach at Macalester; Steve Cox '76 (St. Paul) and Jolene Nelson '86 (Eden Prairie, Minn.).



*Above:* Jon Hollister '91 (Kaneohe, Hawaii), left, and Ian Gibbs '91 (St. Paul). *Right:* Graduating seniors Manyveth Khieu '96 (Faribault, Minn.), left, and Hikuepi Katjiuongua '96 (Windhoek, Namibia).



*Left:* Professor Virginia Schubert organized a 50th anniversary reunion of Fulbright scholars. Among those attending were (from left) Helga Ying '87 (San Francisco), Pamela Leland Nelson '86 (Hudson, Ohio), Professor Schubert, Dean of Academic Programs Ellen Guyer, Julie Strickler '75 (Novato, Calif.), Don Feige '91 (St. Paul) and Erin Bowley '93 (St. Paul).





# Reunion & Commencement at Macalester 1996



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*Above:* Three new alumnae: Catherine Adams '96 (Columbus, Ohio), left, Sarah Reichert '96 (Hopkins, Minn.) and Sarah Wallis '96 (Yellow Springs, Ohio). *Left:* The Macalester 50-Year Club honored the Class of '46 and all previous classes with a ceremony in Weyerhaeuser Chapel. Among those inducted into the club were (from left) Marie Morton Bartz '46 (Beach, N.D.), Lois Critchfield Awsumb '46 (Bemidji, Minn.) and Olive Sanford Anderson '46 (Winona, Minn.).

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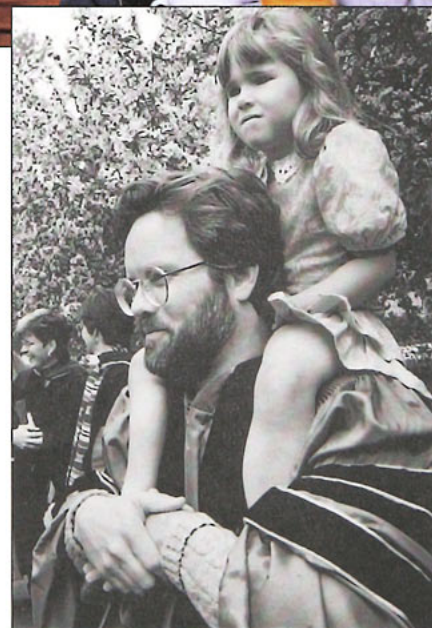


*Left:* Taking a break following the annual Mac Hac golf tournament are (from left) Phil Keenan '80 (Hawley, Mass.), Mark Gwin '76 (St. Paul), David Sleigh '76 (Hardwick, Vt.), Chris Ward '76 (New York City), Chris Wright '76 (Brooklyn, N.Y.) and Steve Cox '76 (St. Paul). *Above:* Kim Walton '79 (Minneapolis), middle, enjoys a moment with Melvin Collins '75 (St. Paul) and his wife, Carol, at the Sunday gospel brunch. *Right:* Cara Craddock has a good view of Commencement from the shoulders of her dad, geology Professor John Craddock '80.

GREG HELGESON



GREG HELGESON





# In Concert

*Students, alumni and  
Twin Cities residents sing out  
as J. Michele Edwards  
leads the Festival Chorale  
into its 25th season*

by Andy Steiner '90

**A**RMS SLICING THE AIR, J. Michele Edwards looks something like an air-traffic controller. She's got a sky full of planes — figuratively, at least — and they've all got to land at the exact same time.

Close your eyes and listen and you'll be assured that it's not airplanes Edwards is directing. It's a choir — 76 members strong. And as if 76 pairs of lungs aren't enough to keep a woman busy, there are also three soloists and a 32-piece orchestra.

For the past four seasons, Edwards has been conductor of the Macalester Festival Chorale, a large-scale choir composed of Macalester students, alums, area residents and other interested vocalists.

The Chorale, now entering its 25th year as a highly respected Twin Cities choral

group, performs major works with orchestral accompaniment during its annual winter and spring concerts. Weekly three-hour rehearsals lead up to the concerts, and as the performance dates draw near, a professional orchestra and vocal soloists are added to the mix.

It's a stormy April evening four days before the group's spring concert, and Edwards has her hands full. "You've got to be independent," she instructs Chorale members. "I've got too many irons in the fire."

Nonetheless, Edwards has the situation well under control four days later, when all 109 musicians crowd the Concert Hall stage at the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center. Dressed in black concert attire, they stand calmly, and, at a signal from the conductor, burst into glorious song. A true five-point landing.

The Festival Chorale was founded 25 years ago by former Macalester faculty member Dale Warland, who now directs the Dale Warland Singers. The group

was designed to fill a gap left by the student-only Concert Choir, the college's other vocal performance group.

"A smaller choir can't do the kind of repertoire that we do," Edwards explains. "We focus on large-scale works."

About 40 percent of Festival Chorale members are Macalester students, 30 percent alums and parents of alums, and 30 percent community members. Auditions for the group are held each year, drawing prospective members from across the Twin Cities area. It's a diverse group, with varying levels of vocal training and different interests, backgrounds and ages. Jim Treanor '48 has been in the



DON HAMMERMAN

**I** ALWAYS perform works I believe in and works that excite me.'

— Professor

J. Michele Edwards



GREG HELGESON

Andy Steiner '90 is a St. Paul free-lance writer and editor.



Chorale since its inception in 1972. He says most members have one thing in common. "It's our love of music that keeps us coming back," says Treanor, who is the retired co-founder of St. Paul Agency, Inc., an insurance agency. "It's something I can't get anyplace else."

Edwards says that very mix of participants is what makes the Festival Chorale so important to the Macalester community. "Several students have mentioned how much fun it is to have some contact with alums and other people from the Twin

**I**T'S our love of music that keeps us coming back.

It's something I can't get anyplace else.'

— Jim Treanor '48 of St. Paul

Cities," she says. "The Chorale is a way to make connections, to bring a diverse group of people with a shared interest together."

"Belonging to the Chorale is a way for me to meet people I wouldn't normally have the opportunity to know," says Nicole Kahn '99, who is from Cleveland. "Everybody seems really nice and friendly." Kahn, who is blind, says Edwards has

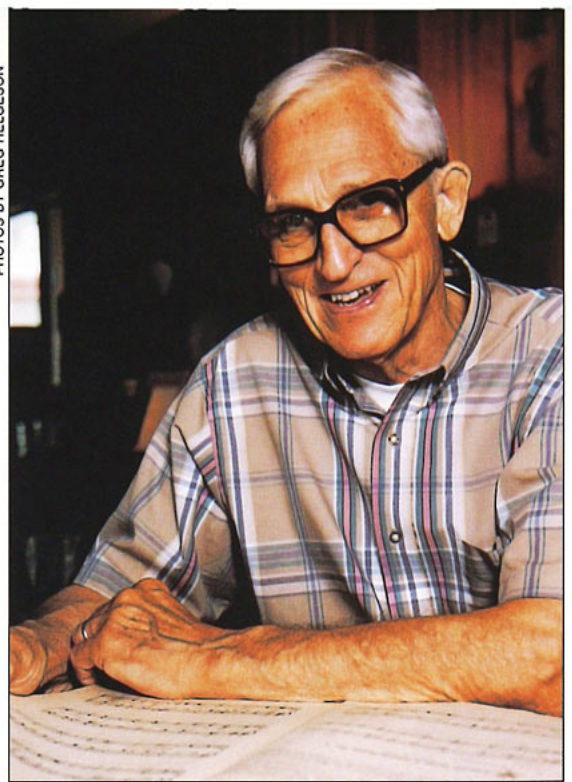
arranged for another Chorale member to tape-record herself rhythmically speaking the words to — and then singing — the soprano part of each Chorale piece. Kahn listens to the tapes and memorizes the words and music. "Cutoffs are a little difficult," she says, "but I ask the person next to me to nudge me when it's time to stop singing."

For many alums, membership in the Chorale has been an important link to their days at Macalester. Cindy Weldon '89 joined the group in 1985, her first year as a student. She's been a member ever since. "Since I've been in it so long, it's a community for me," says

Weldon, who recently gave up her job as an actuary and plans to become an elementary school teacher. "The Chorale has been the one constant in my life since graduation."

While participation in the Chorale may bring its members a measure of comfort, the group does not limit itself to comfortable old standards of choral

PHOTOS BY GREG HELGESON



Jim Treanor '48

music. During Edwards' tenure, the Chorale has performed such classics as Brahms' *Requiem* and Haydn's *The Creation*, but it has also performed such lesser-known works as *African Sanctus* by David Fanshawe; *Job* by Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel; and *Holocaust Memorial Cantata* by Marta Praszynska.

"I have had a long-standing commitment to doing music slightly out of the mainstream," Edwards says. "We're not doing the same pieces everybody's doing. It's stretching all of us out musically as well as intellectually and emotionally."

"The music Michele selects is not only academically challenging, but also technically excellent," says four-year Chorale member Marcia James. James, who graduated from Grinnell College and works as the real estate administrator for the Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, was looking for "a group that does large choral works that are interesting," when she first auditioned for the Festival Chorale.

Veteran Chorale members say that, after months of practices, even the most difficult choral works have their rewards. "It's exciting," says Treanor. "With the music, you always have that challenge and it's not the same old thing each time. You can't go falling asleep, I'll tell you that."

Edwards has a personal commitment to performing music by women composers — she is the author of 20 articles in *The Norton/Grove Dictionary of Women Composers*, published last year — and the Chorale's repertoire reflects that interest. Aside from the 1995 performance of *The Creation*, each concert the group has performed in her four years as director has included at least one work composed by a woman.

"I think that I gradually came to the realization that I had begun paying attention to women composers without realizing what I was doing," Edwards says. "There is this incredible difference between



Nicole Kahn '99



## Jerusalem, Verdi will highlight 25th anniversary

THE FALL PROGRAM of the Macalester Festival Chorale will commemorate the 3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem, with music from the three religions that call the city holy: Judaism, Islam and Christianity.

While director J. Michele Edwards has yet to settle on the exact pieces that the Chorale will perform, she admits she will have to "do some digging" in order to find the right music to represent each of the religions. It's a job she relishes, however.

"I'm looking for music that shows the interplay of unity and diversity in the region, that pulls the groups together, and also allows for variety," she says.

Likely candidates for the fall program range from a 12th century liturgical chant by Hildegard von Bingen (*O Jerusalem*) to a work by a contemporary Israeli composer.

In the spring, the Festival Chorale will perform Verdi's *Requiem*, a challenging and exciting piece for any ensemble. "To perform this stunning work of such tremendous power, drama and proportions seems a fitting way to celebrate Festival Chorale's first quarter century," Edwards says.

**Fall performances:** 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, and 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 17, location TBA.

**Spring performances:** Saturday and Sunday, April 19–20, 1997, times and places TBA

**Ticket and location information:** 696-6520 •



During a rehearsal of *Holocaust Memorial Cantata*, Conductor J. Michele Edwards confers with (from left) professional soloists Larry Hill, Angela Malek and Hugh Givens as well as Assistant Conductor Daryl Erickson.

premiere. First performed in Berlin in 1831, the piece — a notable example of richly harmonic Romantic style — had fallen into undeserved obscurity.

"I always perform works I believe in and works that excite me," Edwards says. "For all the women on the stage and all the women in the audience, it's a thrill to recognize ourselves in the music."

For many Chorale members, this spring's performance of *Holocaust Memorial Cantata* had added significance, because Marta Ptaszyńska, the composer of the experimental work, was in the audience. Ptaszyńska, a native of Warsaw, told those assembled in the Janet Wallace Concert Hall that she wrote the cantata, with words from a poem by Leslie Woolf Hedley, as a way to "send some light to the darkness of the human soul."

Later, after the concerts were over, Edwards said that the composer had been pleased with the group's performance of her work. "She told me that she would like to do a recording of the piece with me conducting and the Festival Chorale singing."

Challenge and variety keep the members of the Festival Chorale coming back each week. Though the practices can get long ("because they're at night, you might already be tired when you get there," Kahn allows), members say the payoff comes each time they open their mouths to sing.

"It's an overwhelming sound," James says, "a physical feeling you get with all those voices singing together."

Treanor agrees. "The music stirs you inside," he says. "You fall in love with the music. You go home, go to bed, and the next day you have a song in your heart." •

Cindy Weldon '89

the activity of women composers and what was actually being listed on concert programs. . . . There are some exciting works that are never being done."

The Chorale's 1993 performance of Fanny Hensel's *Job*, for instance, was the work's American





MILLIONS OF TV WATCHERS know him as hyperkinetic Billy Kronk, the young-doctor-as-dynamo in the hospital series "Chicago Hope." A smaller number of people, fans of edgy, independent films, know his face from such critically lauded dramas as *The Last Seduction*, *A Midnight Clear* and *Late for Dinner*.

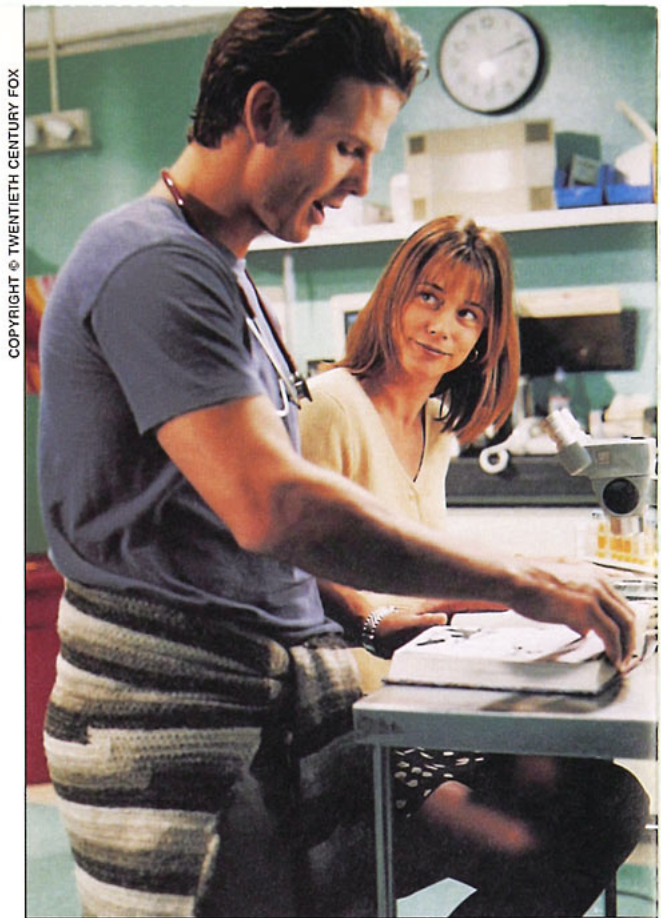
It is a truly select group of people, however, who remember Peter Berg '84 from his first paid professional gig. He won \$1,000 in a lip-synch contest held at downtown Minneapolis' First Avenue for imitating the CB anthem "Convoy" flanked by a pair of Truck Stop Trudies (Berg's fellow Macalester students Shirley Oliver '84 and Mary Delahanty '85).

The "Convoy" crew made the finals, as did a group of transvestites who came in third mouthing "Workin' Hard for the Money" (this was the early '80s, remember?). "After we won that check from those transvestites, they were angry," recalls Berg. "We got out alive. We took our money and we walked out with our heads high."

Berg's career since that time seems more directed than "Convoy" might lead you to expect. This year alone has seen him complete a full season of "Chicago Hope"; perform in a stage drama with an AIDS theme, "The 24th Day," opposite "E.R.'s" Noah Wyle in Los Angeles; take on a lead role as



1993: Berg during filming of *The Last Seduction* with (from left) Amy Abrams '85, who is now a camera assistant, and Thomas "Basti" VanDerWoude '84 and Eric Hefron '83, both now assistant directors.



1996: Berg as Billy Kronk in "Chicago Hope." He has signed a year-to-year contract with the TV series, because he doesn't want it to become "prohibitive of my exploring other things." As in: direct. He'll direct a segment of "Chicago Hope" this coming year.

an Irish palooka in the boxing yarn *The Great White Hype*, co-starring Samuel L. Jackson and Damon Wayans; and do a walk-on as a mother-obsessed phone-sex freak in Spike Lee's *Girl 6*.

That's only in front of the camera. Behind it, he's developing a feature script he co-wrote, *Furious George*, and he's written a "Chicago Hope" segment that aired this past May. He's also writing a thriller for John Dahl (the filmmaker of *The Last Seduction*)

# Peter's Prime

From 'Chicago Hope' to 'The Last Seduction's' dope, actor Peter Berg '84 enjoys playing 'guys who take a big swing and miss'

by Deborah Alexander



to executive-produce next year, with Berg at the helm. Like everybody, he wants to direct, and to hear him talk, he makes it sound like he planned it all along.

Don't believe it. Ten years of inspired ad-libbing followed his move West after graduation. He accepted just about every odd production job that came along, not to mention every bit part in such memorable, direct-to-oblivion projects as *Babes Ahoy*, *A Tale of Two Sisters* and *Never on Tuesday*.

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*Deborah Alexander, a former film critic for the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner and St. Paul Pioneer Press, is a film commentator for Minnesota Public Radio.*

"I chalk those up to my earlier 'educational' period of exploration in Los Angeles," he says diplomatically. He swiftly learned the first rule of Tinseltown survival: Assume you can do anything. Rule No. 2: Even if you can't do it, say you can and then fake it.

He offers an example. "If someone were to ask me if I had had any experience wrangling pigeons, yes, I've had plenty of experience." For the record, that fib got him a job wrangling pigeons for Wayne Wang's 1987 indie thriller *Slam Dance*. "No easy task," he boasts.

Now that he's slightly more established, he's still at it, claiming, for example, that he knew how to box when he landed the role of fighter Terry Conklin in *Great White Hype*. Then he hired a

A 1995 *TV Guide* article called Peter Berg "Chicago Hunk." But Berg, who has been married for three years, insists: "There's not a lot of hunk-like treatment going on in my house."



Time



trainer to work with him "18 hours a day" till he looked the part.

The key to the crazy business in which he finds himself working, Berg says, is persistence, plus a combination of arrogance and humility — which only sounds like a contradiction in terms. "I don't know how you do it, but you must be tremendously arrogant and tremendously respectful and humble at the same time," he says.

For example, if you're Peter Berg, you sit down and write your first film script, not as the kind of

**'YOU MUST be tremendously arrogant and tremendously respectful and humble at the same time.'**

modest character-acting exercise that might actually stand a chance of getting made, but as a \$35 or \$40 million action extravaganza in which you blow up the Golden Gate Bridge. Then you have the

chutzpah to go out and actually sell it for a number in the respectable six figures. Hence, *Furious George*, co-written with Berg's neighbor Michael Schiffer (*Crimson Tide*).

On the other hand, you never consider writing the lead for yourself, even though you're an actor. "I knew they wouldn't approve of me as the lead," he says bluntly — he's not bankable to that rich tune. Yet. "So I wrote a really, really good supporting role." At this writing, Michael Keaton will star as a boozy San Francisco park ranger trying to save the U.S. president and a visiting Chinese premier from being assassinated. Berg will play his gonzo ranger sidekick.

Of course, arrogant and humble means you can remain cool and collected playing a catnip toy to the screen's most ferocious

she-cat since Bette Davis hung up her claws: i.e., Linda Fiorentino's *femme fatale* in *The Last Seduction*. Berg's character, the hapless Mike Swale, was utterly destroyed by the woman's wiles, but Berg the actor came out unscathed. Better than that, he came out with job offers, including the TV series.

"I think it was a question of finding the humor and charm in the character," he says. "I've yet to find a man who could not be radically manipulated by a woman under the right circumstances. Then it was a question of not being sexually humiliated, because she was so — aggressive. It was a question of just holding on for dear life at certain points!" he



Berg with Linda Fiorentino's *femme fatale* in *The Last Seduction*, released in 1994. After this film, Berg's recognition factor soared. David Kelley, the creator of "Chicago Hope," who used to play hockey with Berg, wrote the part of Billy Kronk into the show "halfway with me in mind," Berg says.

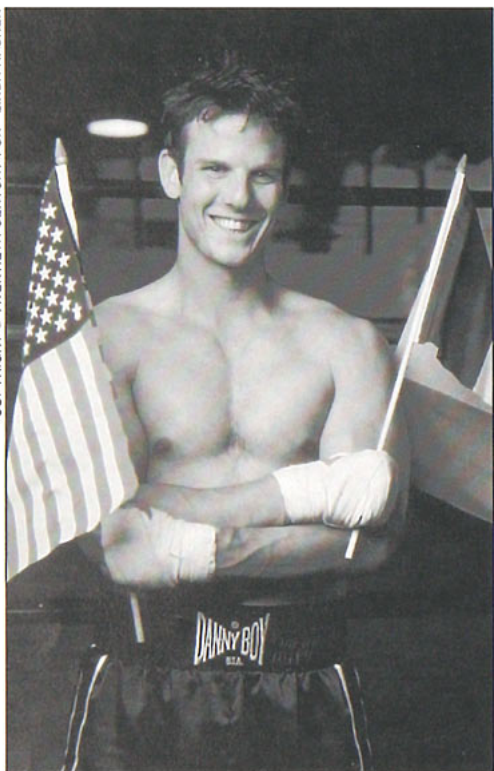
says, taking a deep breath. "And I enjoyed every minute of it."

The role fit what Berg describes as his usual fare: "earnest, intense guys who just don't have it all figured out." He doesn't mind this kind of typecasting, however. "I enjoy playing flawed characters, guys who take a big swing and miss."

The offbeat, sometimes volatile charm of such characters strikes a chord, it seems, among female fans of "Chicago Hope." So much so that a 1995 *TV Guide* feature article on Berg called him "Chicago Hunk." How does this sort of publicity sit with his wife of three years, Elizabeth Rogers? "There's not a lot of hunk-like treatment going on in my house, is all I can tell you," he laughs. "I think we both find it rather funny."

So far, at least, the adulation hasn't gone to his head. Berg, who grew up in Chappaqua, N.Y., actually credits Macalester with providing a rock-solid sense of identity in a semi-insane job. He still bases his professional decisions on whether he'll be working with people who creatively stimulate him, "something that I think I really learned at Macalester." Though his days are "sometimes chaotic to the point of insanity," he manages to keep up with Mac friends who work in the industry, notably Thomas "Basti" VanDerWoude '84, Eric Hefron '83 and Ari Emanuel '83: "I was just the best man at Ari's wedding," Berg reports.

"I can't wait to send a child to Macalester," he says, "and I hope I can afford the tuition." ●



1996: Berg as "Irish" Terry Conklin in *The Great White Hype*, a comedy. He'd never boxed before, but the Macalester theater major says, "I used to punch walls a lot at Macalester. Most of my knuckles are still in various stages of malfunction as a result."

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# Alan Naylor '57 takes over as president of Alumni Association

**A**LAN F. NAYLOR '57 of Minnetonka, Minn., is the new president of Macalester's Alumni Association.

Naylor, senior vice president of Firstar Corp. of Minnesota, joined the Alumni Association's Board of Directors in 1992. He suc-



Alan Naylor '57

ceeds Peter Fenn '70 of Washington, D.C., who has been elected to the Macalester Board of Trustees.

John Van Hecke '85 of St. Paul is the new vice president, succeeding David Senness '70 of Golden Valley, Minn. Van Hecke is a graduate student in U.S. history at the University of Minnesota.

Anne Hale '91, regional account manager for Cardiff Software in San Diego, remains secretary of the Alumni Board.

In addition, these five alums will join the Alumni Board as new members at Macalester's Leadership Conference Sept. 13-15:

- Grant Killoran '86, Milwaukee, an attorney with Michael, Best & Friedrich. He is an alumni admissions volunteer and has hosted several Milwaukee alumni events.

- Juan Figueroa '77, New York, an attorney and chief executive officer of the Puerto Rican Legal Defense and Education Fund. He has been a featured speaker in Macalester's Alumni of Color

Lecture Series on campus.

- Edward Swanson '64, St. Paul, principal cataloger at the Minnesota Historical Society. A recipient of the Alumni Service Award, he is



John Van Hecke '85

one of the college's most active Twin Cities volunteers and has helped organize the Macalester College Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alumni organization.



Anne Hale '91

Washington, D.C., an attorney and political consultant with Foreman & Heidepriem. She is active in Macalester's career network resource program and has been a phonathon volunteer.

In addition to Fenn and Senness, members who retired from the Alumni Board this year include Carlynn White Trout '82 of Boston, Ellery July '77 of Cottage Grove, Minn., and three student members, Tim Oberweger '96, Cindy Ryberg '96 and Julie Donnelly '96.

- Allen Parchem '67, Chicago, president of RHR International Co. He is an alumni admissions volunteer and a member of the college's Heritage Society.

- Nikki Heidepriem '72,

## Cruise the Caribbean with Macalester alums and friends, Feb. 1-8

**Y**OU CAN JOIN MACALESTER ALUMNI AND FRIENDS on a cruise through the Caribbean, Feb. 1-8, 1997. When you board the Nantucket Clipper at Crown Bay Marina in St. Thomas, you will embark on a unique small-ship adventure through what National Geographic has called "some of the world's most beautiful waters."

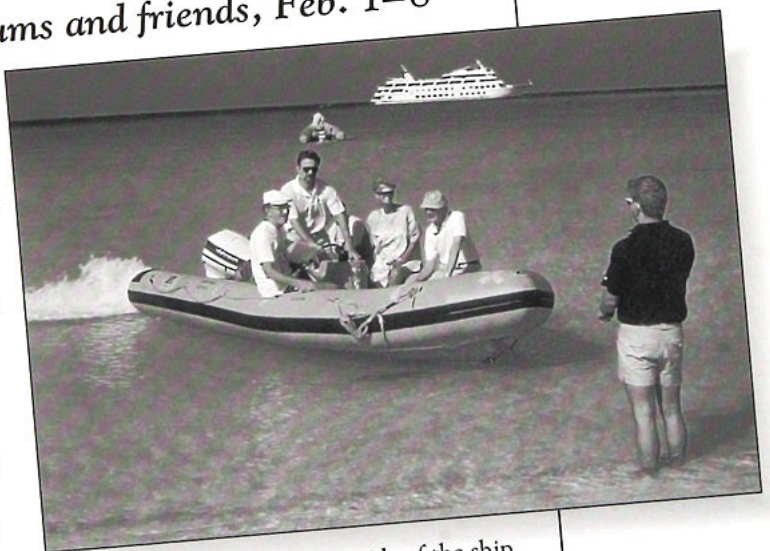
This voyage is different from the typical big-ship experience because you will travel in much smaller numbers to secluded areas away from the crowds, enjoying the camaraderie of Macalester alums.

In the midst of unspoiled islands ringed with forested hills, turquoise waters and white sand beaches, you may beachcomb on nearly deserted shores or wander through island communities and marinas for a look at the lifestyle of the Caribbean.

The 100-passenger Nantucket Clipper is specifically designed for cruising in coastal waters. Its Zodiac landing craft can be launched in minutes for landings on small islands and deserted beaches. You can swim right off the side of the ship. If you are a newcomer to snorkeling, the on-board marine biologist can teach you in no time at all.

The Nantucket Clipper will cruise through the islands of St. Thomas, St. John, Jost van Dyke, Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Salt and Norman.

For more information, call Jennifer Patti, associate alumni director, at (612) 696-6026. •





# The Family Tree community clinic celebrates 25 years

**C**HOOOSE A BIG DREAM and make it work." That phrase represents the last 25 years of the Family Tree's existence. In 1971 a group of community people, including some Macalester graduates, articulated a dream: to create a safe, confidential community clinic for people needing family planning and reproductive health care services.

Housed initially in the basement of an office building on Selby Avenue and relying heavily on volunteers, the Family Tree has succeeded in providing basic reproductive health care to more than 65,000 people — a great many of them Macalester students — since 1971. Today, from the more comfortable examination rooms of the renovated Richards Gordon school building on Dayton Avenue, the clinic continues to promote the awareness and practice of sound health behaviors. The board of directors and clinic staff are always seeking ways to meet new challenges. Some of the more recent programs:

- a toll-free hotline answers calls from all over the state regarding venereal diseases, pregnancy and other issues related to sexual health;
- the "Dads Make a Difference" program encourages young men to take responsibility for their role in teen-age pregnancies;

- extensive school outreach programs reach elementary through college-age students and, in some cases, their parents;

- a new menopause service has been initiated to respond to the concerns of older women, some of whom may have been patients of the Family Tree in their younger years.

Historically, Macalester students and graduates have had a strong presence at the Family Tree. Currently, three Macalester alums sit on the board of directors — John Austin '72, Kimerly Miller '72 and Aimee Thostenson '94 — and six alums are now on staff. Assistant Director Sara Stedman '74 has been with the Family Tree for 19 of its 25 years. More



recently, Rebecca Fee '88 has become the clinic coordinator. Other staff members include Karin Parrett '91, Jennifer Reinhart '89, Mali Schroeder '89 and Erin Jansa '92.

To help the Family Tree celebrate its 25th anniversary, the clinic's board of directors has invited the former governor

of Texas, Ann Richards, to speak about women and health care at a public fundraiser at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, at O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at the College of St. Catherine. Prior to the speech, Richards will attend a private reception at the Family Tree.

Macalester alums are invited to participate in the celebration. To purchase tickets for either Richards' speech or the reception at the Family Tree, or both, call the Family Tree at 645-0478.

## Calendar of events

**H**ERE ARE SOME of the events scheduled for alumni, parents, family and friends. More events are being added all the time. For more information on any of the following, call the Alumni Office, (612) 696-6295, except where noted. You may also call the campus events line, (612) 696-6900. Please note: All Twin Cities area alumni will receive a fall Arts & Events Calendar, listing these and other events at Macalester, by mid-September.

Macalester Galleries, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center: Stuart Klipper: Photographs from the Costa Rican Rainforest, Sept. 12–Oct. 12; "Cloth Reveries," exhibition by nine leading American textile artists, curated by Mary Hark and Cynthia Williams, Oct. 18–Nov. 24 (696-6690).

Aug. 8: New York City alumni event with Professor Sears Eldredge and Pat Eldredge, "Visible and Invisible Masks," 7 p.m., Crowne Plaza, 1605 Broadway (call Allison Deyo '94 at 212-794-0943)

Sept. 1: Chicago alumni event, "Garrison Keillor at Ravinia," 7 p.m. (call Molly McGinnis '87 at 312-327-1851)

Sept. 13–15: Alumni Leadership Conference at Macalester for alumni leaders throughout the country; all-campus convocation with President Mike McPherson and student body President Gretchen Rohr '98 at 3:30 p.m. Sept. 13

Oct. 3–5: Third Annual Macalester International Roundtable, on theme of "The Divided Self: Ethnicity, Identity and Globalization" (696-6332)

Oct. 4–6 and 11–13: Dance concert, produced by Becky Heist, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center (696-6359)

Oct. 10: Twin Cities Alumni Career Night with consultant Robin Ryan, 7–9 p.m., Macalester's Weyerhaeuser



## Candidates for Sainthood

Alumni and friends turned out June 21 to cheer on the St. Paul Saints, one of minor league baseball's biggest success stories. Among those in attendance at the pre-game barbecue were (seated, from left) Katy Anderson, Jen Patti '91, associate alumni director, and Amy Foley '91. Behind them are Kevin Anderson '87 and Pat Twiss '90.





## Walking against AIDS

On May 19, 51 Macalester alumni, staff, students and friends sponsored a team and joined more than 12,000 other people at the ninth annual Minnesota AIDS Walk at Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis. The Mac contingent raised \$3,575 in contributions and pledges in the fight against AIDS. All proceeds support the Minnesota AIDS Project, the state's oldest and largest AIDS service organization.

Chapel, co-sponsored with Carleton, St. Olaf and Gustavus Adolphus (\$10 advance, \$15 at door; call 696-6295)

Oct. 11-13: Fall Festival and Parents' Weekend (696-6295)

Oct. 12: Parents' Weekend Concert, 8 p.m., featuring Music Department ensembles (696-6382)

Oct. 13: Macalester Trio and Friends, "Celebration of Clara Schumann," 7:30 p.m. (696-6382)

Oct. 17: 25th anniversary of Family Tree clinic, with former Texas Gov.

Ann Richards, 7:30 p.m., O'Shaughnessy Auditorium, College of St. Catherine; call 645-0478 for tickets

Oct. 29: Twin Cities alumni event with George Latimer, Distinguished Visiting Professor in Urban Studies at Macalester, 7 p.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel (696-6295)

Nov. 7: World Press Institute Fellows discuss experiences following travels throughout the U.S., 11:30 a.m., Weyerhaeuser Chapel

## Scotland in June '97? Aye, lads and lassies

**D**ON YOUR TARTANS and join Macalester alumni, parents and friends for a special trip to Scotland, June 3-16, 1997.

Highlights will include visits to Scottish castles — among them, Stonefield Castle in Tarbert where clan Macalester began.

The tour will conclude with a trip to London, featuring London theater.

Mary Smail, former associate director of the Macalester Alumni Office, will lead the trip. Watch the November issue of *Macalester Today* for more details.

Questions? Call the Alumni Office at (612) 696-6295. •

Nov. 8:

Macalester Guitar Ensemble, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 9: Macalester Pipe Band and Highland Dance, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 13-14: Work and Vocation Conference featuring leaders in religion, labor, business and education

Nov. 15: Mac Jazz Band, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 15-17 and 22-24: Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, directed by Professor Sears Eldredge, Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center (696-6359)

Nov. 16-17: Macalester Festival Chorale, 8 p.m. Nov. 16 and 3 p.m. Nov. 17 (696-6520)

Nov. 22: Macalester Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Nov. 24: Macalester Symphonic Band, 3 p.m. (696-6382)

Dec. 6: Flying Fingers, folk, bluegrass and other traditional acoustic music, 8 p.m. (696-6382)

Dec. 6-7: Macalester Concert Choir, Festive Evenings' 20th Anniversary, 8 p.m. (reservations required: 696-6520)

## Alumni clubs

**A**LL OVER the United States and abroad, alumni regularly get together to discuss career paths, current events, community service work, the arts and a host of other topics. The 10 listed below are just a few of Macalester's alumni clubs, and others will be listed in subsequent issues of *Mac Today*. For information about alumni activities in your area, please call the contacts listed below or the Alumni Office at (612) 696-6295.

### Boston

Kathryn I. Kozak '83  
(H) (617) 731-8886

### Chicago

Molly McGinnis '87  
(H) (312) 327-1851

### Milwaukee

Grant Killoran '86  
(H) (414) 963-4181

### New York

Allison Deyo '94  
(H) (212) 794-0943

### Phoenix

Barbara L. Carpenter '72  
(H) (602) 661-9616

### St. Petersburg, Fla.

Shirl Ahrens '62  
(H) (813) 787-9205

### San Diego

Nils Persson '63  
(H) (619) 695-9375

### Seattle

Jim Bennett '69  
(H) (206) 784-9090

### Tucson, Ariz.

Marion Primeau Kole '46  
(H) (520) 625-6168

### Twin Cities

Julie Stroud '81  
(H) (612) 699-2202

### Washington, D.C.

Shelley Churchill '89  
(H) (202) 333-0751



## Scents and sensibility

*Chef Kirk Bratrud '84 explores the palate with 'adventure dining' at his Bayport American Cookery*

by Jack El-Hai

AT AN AGE when most kids were mastering the intricacies of microwave popcorn or boxed brownie mixes, Kirk Bratrud '84 hosted some remarkable culinary events.

"In high school I developed a great deal of interest in cooking and would have dinner parties where I served strange foods like octopus," he remembers. "A lot of it was for the thrill effect and not necessarily for good results. But it was fun to experiment."

Now the owner and head chef of Bayport American Cookery in Bayport, Minn., Bratrud is still experimenting. The results these days are often exceptional, earning his restaurant high praise from Twin Cities diners and restaurant critics. Ever since he opened his eatery in 1991, he has been known as a chef who uses ultra-fresh, and often quite unusual, produce to create memorable meals.

Bratrud, who always prepares fixed five-course meals that change nightly, believes that each dinner has its own sensibility.

"The most memorable meals come up like mental flashes, and the challenge is to turn the flash into a useful idea that is successful in the dining room," he says. For example, when he considered serving tacos for the first time, the preparation possibilities were endless, but he first decided he would include green peppercorns for their earthy quality. From there the rest of the dish evolved to include duck, mangos, artichokes and sunflower sprouts.

"It was very bizarre and it defied logic, but it was a genuine pursuit of ideas that turned out to be successful." Eating at his restaurant, he says, is "adventure dining. People come because they are tuning into the sensibility being explored."

At Macalester, Bratrud had little time for cooking. A history major, he was impressed by the interconnection of many disciplines, following their common threads in much the same way he now discovers foods with complementary flavors. "I spent almost a year at Macalester concentrating on art classes, and I was floored by how much I was able to learn about how people appreciate art. I learned about the importance of humanity in art, and I've exploited that in my cooking."

After Macalester, he went to work in the kitchen of Mrs. B's, his parents' bed-and-breakfast inn in Lanesboro, Minn. There, with large vegetable markets too distant to visit, he relied on the harvests of local gardeners and the forageable edibles of the forest. He learned to cook with morels, wild greens, juniper berries, wild leeks and wild plums.

Since he established Bayport American Cookery in an old former grocery store, the new business — drawing most of its diners from the nearby Twin Cities — has altered his cooking style. "I started by using very good-quality ingredients — not

doing very much to them, but making good use of them," he says. "I found that people wanted a higher level of sophistication. So I have become a little more sophisticated in providing city food."

City-restaurant habitués find dining in Bratrud's



"A genuine pursuit of ideas": Kirk Bratrud prepares dinner.

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**'The most memorable meals come up like mental flashes, and the challenge is to turn the flash into a useful idea that is successful in the dining room.'**

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establishment both a rewarding experience — Minneapolis *Star Tribune* restaurant critic Jeremy Iggers recently honored it for preparing "the year's most memorable meal" — and a novel one. The restaurant accommodates

only 50 diners. There is one seating nightly, and the leisurely presentation of courses can take hours. Weekend tables are often booked a month in advance.

Bratrud spends long hours in the restaurant, but has no regrets. "I really like doing this," he says. "It's a personal thing for me." •

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*Jack El-Hai is a longtime contributor to Mac Today. Earlier this year he published his newest book, a corporate history of agricultural cooperative Land O' Lakes.*



# Extra-tight jeans, and government by decree

*The former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan achieves independence, but few of its people are cheering*

by Michael F. Hamm '65

ON CHRISTMAS DAY 1991, shortly after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the United States government recognized Kazakhstan as an independent state. In January 1992 we became the first country to open an embassy in its capital city of Almaty.

During the fall of 1995, I had the opportunity to lecture in Almaty. Nestled at the base of the spectacular Ala Tau mountain range, the city has a glow of prosperity. New hotels and apartment buildings are going up. Automobile ownership has grown markedly, and expensive Japanese and Korean makes can be found among the more common Russian models. Huge *barakholki* (bazaars) operate on the city's outskirts where hundreds of sellers rent half-stalls for about \$4 a day. Most of the goods are imported from nearby China or the Middle East. The Uighurs, one of Kazakhstan's ethnic minorities, are prominent in this trade that provides consumer products for much of Central Asia.

In Soviet times, consumer goods were scarce. Now there are countless vendors,

**One administrator received an offer to work for Almaty's new Philip Morris cigarette plant at \$1,000 a month, more than 10 times her university salary.**

and many sell odd combinations of items. At one sporting goods store, I saw tents, tennis racquets, California-made rubber rafts called "Fish Hunters," outboard motors, bicycles and "tummy trimmers" from Taiwan, but also paint, disposable diapers, oven cleaner, motor oil, canned peaches, RAID, Spacodent toothpaste, women's underwear, refrigerators, wallpaper and window frames. Fashionable shops have adopted Western commercial enticements. One example: expensive Turkish-made jeans come with "button-fly" and "extra-tight" labels.

However, relatively few Kazakstanis can afford the goods that have become available, and, like Russia, the country suffers from a growing gap between a small num-



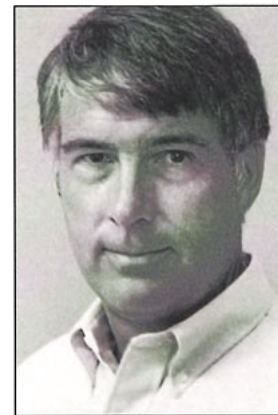
ber of very rich and a large number of poor. Inflation — 30 percent per month in 1993 — had dropped to about 4 percent per month by the fall of 1995, but pensioners make the monthly equivalent of \$15–\$20, forcing many to sell fruit, bottled water, sunflower seeds and other items on the streets in an effort to make ends meet. Meager student stipends are often late, and university faculty make only \$50 a month. Thus, students and faculty scramble about, supplementing their incomes however they can, leaving little time for serious study or research.

I lectured to three classes in international law and international relations at Almaty State University (AGU) and gave public talks at both AGU and Kazak State University. I decided to speak about racial and ethnic issues in America, assuming they would be interesting in multiracial, multiethnic Kazakhstan, and I hoped as well that American political issues would appeal to them, since a controversial new constitution, strengthening the already powerful position of President Nursultan Nazarbaev, had been ratified just before my arrival. Unfortunately, few of my students were interested in the American Constitution or in contemporary American politics. In fact, there is little interest in politics in general, for there is little opportunity to participate in politics in Kazakhstan today.

The dismal conditions I encountered at AGU said much about the plight of higher education in Kazakhstan. Lights were seldom turned on, apparently because utility

bills had not been paid. There was no heat until November, and I often lectured in my winter coat. Few offices had computers, and AGU had neither e-mail nor a reliable fax, making communication with the U.S. difficult.

Like the medical sector, education is badly underfunded. University admission standards are not high, and administrators,



Michael Hamm

history, he has lived in the former Soviet Union for three extended periods. He is the editor of two books, *The City in Russian History* and *The City in Late Imperial Russia*, and the author of a third, *Kiev: A Portrait, 1800-1917* (Princeton University Press, 1993), which won the Omelan and Tatiana Antonovych Foundation Prize for "exceptional work on the history of Ukraine." He and his wife, JoAnn Wikoff Hamm '65, who teaches fourth and fifth grade, live in Danville.

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perhaps recognizing the inevitable, are reluctant to impose strict attendance or academic standards. For many students, except for Western languages and commercial skills, learning has uncertain relevance. Not surprisingly, few students are interested in teaching as a career, for it carries little status or material reward.

Faculty and students alike are trapped by economic and cultural changes they cannot control. One English-speaking administrator agonized over turning down an offer to sacrifice years of academic training and go to work for Almaty's new Philip Morris cigarette plant at \$1,000 a month, more than 10 times her university salary. Because her family had other sources of income, she could afford to stay put — for now. Some faculty do "shop-tours" to China or the Middle East to purchase sweatshirts, tennis shoes and other goods they can sell on the street.

On the other hand, large crowds often turned out for my public lectures. The audience seemed to want practical information or opinion about local or regional issues. After finishing a lecture on American environmental issues, I was asked how I would handle the ecocatastrophe created by the drying up of Central Asia's Aral Sea, the result of improper use of water resources in Soviet times. When I mentioned America's

philosophical (but spotty and selective) support for national self-determination in a talk on foreign policy, Kurdish students were quick to ask about America's attitudes (and my own) toward the Kurdish struggle for independence. A reference to the O.J. Simpson verdict in a lecture on American race relations led to questions about how judges and juries were selected in the United States. After trying to explain peremptory challenges, I wished that I had spent more time describing and explaining American legal procedures.



Senior citizens in Kazakhstan's capital city perform in a street underpass to help make ends meet.

People were uniformly friendly and helpful. I encountered nothing of the indifference so common in university offices during Soviet times. Nor did I encounter the numbing conformity or the fear of new ideas that had characterized Soviet-era students. And I did meet some extremely talented and goal-oriented individuals. My favorite was a young man who was finishing degrees at both universities, one in economics and another in physics. Nearly fluent in English, he had also learned French and Japanese. Computer-literate, he was trying to set up his own business in information services.

Almaty had been heavily Russified during Soviet times, and Russian remains the language of its streets. Many Kazaks, in fact, know only Russian and are having to learn their own language for the first time. The Nazarbaev government has mandated that all Kazakstani citizens learn the Kazak language, and free evening classes are being offered. Most students would rather study English than Kazak, but they acknowledge that learning the Kazak

language is a reasonable longer-term obligation. In general, I sensed no ethnic hostility between Kazak and Russian students.

Above all, universities are less dependent on government ministries charged with ensuring conformity to officially approved ideological goals. University staffs have the opportunity to forge their own curricular and pedagogical paths, and many find this exciting.

Since dissolving the former parliament in March 1995, President Nazarbaev has ruled by presidential decree, stressing the need for stability in these hard times. Political parties, including the Communists, barely function. On Nov. 7, Revolution Day in Soviet times,

**President Nazarbaev has ruled by presidential decree, stressing the need for stability.**

my wife JoAnn and I watched the remnants of Almaty's Communist Party march to the statue of Lenin that still stands in a park. Only about a dozen older men, almost all of them Russians, participated in this demonstration. One demonstra-

tor shouted that America was "occupying" Kazakhstan and stealing its minerals, but no one in the small crowd of onlookers seemed particularly interested.

In December 1995, elections were held to create a new parliament. According to a poll, only one in four Almaty residents knew the names of the candidates in their constituencies. Many oppositional candidates boycotted these elections, and government-sponsored parties easily won control of both houses.

For Kazakstani students, the present is confusing and the future uncertain. Because of limited political opportunity, they tend not to see themselves as contributors to the building of a new political and social order, and their interest in historical and political issues is correspondingly low. If and when political opportunities broaden, interest in such issues will increase very quickly. But for now, most Kazakstani students and many faculty are more concerned with the practical realities of economic survival. ●

## Kazakstan

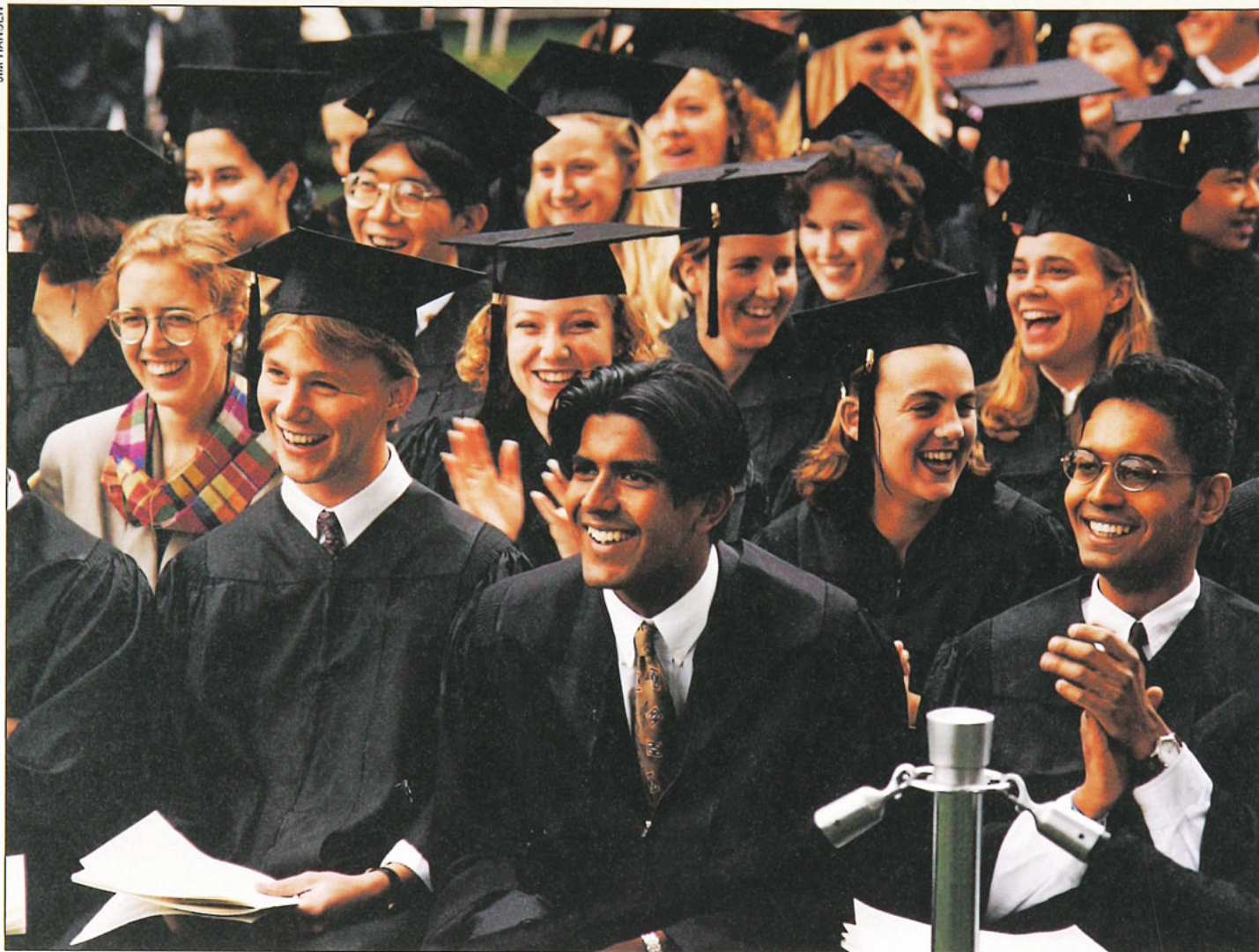
**Size:** larger than India

**Population:** 17 million

**Ethnicity:** about 46 percent are ethnic Kazaks, a Turkic-speaking, formerly nomadic people who may have descended from the Mongol Golden Horde; Russians and Ukrainians make up about 40 percent of its population, and many have left Kazakhstan since its independence

**Resources:** substantial oil, gas, coal and mineral reserves; has attracted more Western investment than any other former Soviet republic, including Russia ●





## Class of '96

Members of the Class of '96 enjoy a light moment at Macalester's 107th Commencement on May 25. For the first time, the college combined Reunion for returning alumni with Commencement for graduating seniors. In all, 411 seniors representing 33 countries received their diplomas. See pages 20-28.

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